

APPENDIX  
TO  
THE THIRTY-FOURTH VOLUME  
OF THE  
NEW ARRANGEMENT  
OF THE  
CRITICAL REVIEW.

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ART. I.—*Traité de Minéralogie, par le Citoyen Haüy, Membre de l'Institut National des Sciences et des Arts, &c. Publié par le Conseil des Mines, en Cinque Volumes, dont un contient 86 Planches. 8vo. Paris. 1801.*

*Treatise on Mineralogy, by M. Haüy, Member of the National Institute of Sciences and Arts, &c. Published by the Council of Mines. 5 Vols. with 86 Plates. Imported by De Boffe.*

THIS work claims our attention on many accounts; and to examine its object and plan is more than sufficient for a single article. Should we not be prevented by an English translation, we shall return to it in another Appendix. Let us however observe, that, if such a version be in contemplation, we would recommend adding to it the Abstract of Werner's Orictognostic Classification of Minerals by M. Daubuisson. It is more clear and intelligible than the original, which, nevertheless, with more than common precision and minuteness of distinction, contains much valuable information, though in a style that must disgust and even repel a reader of common resolution. The abstract is not without its repellent powers; but they may be conquered by a little exertion\*. To return however to M. Haüy's Treatise of Mineralogy.

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\* At the moment of writing this part of our article, we received the first volume of an Elementary Treatise of Mineralogy, by M. Brochant, engineer of mines. We have looked it over cursorily, and think it possesses considerable merit; and perceive that it is spoken of with great respect by M. Haüy. We now mention it not only to announce the publication, but to remark that it unites the precision of the school of Werner with M. Haüy's geometrical accuracy. It contains a more copious and correct view of Werner's language and manner of description than even the translation of Madame Picardet. It must indeed be remembered, that the translation which we noticed in a former volume of our journal was from

In our 62d volume, O. S. (p. 55), when examining a distinct treatise of Romé de l'Isle 'on the exterior character of minerals,' we noticed the different classifications, and particularly adverted, as the work led us, to the form of crystals, as a constant unchangeable character. We resumed the subject in our review of Daubenton's *Tableau de Minéralogie*, and have since noticed it in every work where it has occurred. Unfortunately, the form of the crystals has been little attended to by any English author; and even Mr. Kirwan, in his last edition, though he has adopted the language and much of the precision of the school of Werner, has not noticed the form and the angles of crystals, and has even spoken of crystallography with contempt. It has been observed, and the remark has been often repeated in this journal, that the two contending classes of mineralogists—those who depend chiefly on external characters as the means of distinguishing minerals, and those who think that the distinctions must be drawn from chemical analysis—should naturally yield to each other, and unite their powers. We particularly pointed out this union in our review of M. Daubenton's Table, where the advantages of the union were particularly conspicuous; and we now find our ideas coincide with those of M. Haüy, the chief supporter of the system of crystallisation, the most striking of the external forms. To chemistry, he observes, must belong the determination of species. 'It may be more proper to say that it completes this determination, in showing us the "principal molecules," of which the "integrant molecules," the crystals, are assemblages. We can already perceive, and we shall in future find many examples of this truth, how important it is that the inquiries respecting these two kinds of molecules should be directed to one common object, that the chemist and mineralogist should mutually assist each other; and that the goniometer, which furnishes the data requisite to the calculation of crystalline forms, should be joined with the balance which weighs the product of the analysis.'

In this system, M. Haüy follows that of the chemical mineralogist; but the varieties are distinguished by the crystalline form, which in our author's hands is a science almost wholly new; and we believe he is right in asserting, that no varieties have been determined by the crystallographer which analysis has not confirmed.

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an early work of Werner; and that the German mineralogist has extended his language with the enlargement of the science, in consequence of new discoveries. Only the first volume of M. Brochant's work has yet appeared, and it contains the 'earths and stones,' though an appendix to these will be added. He speaks as if the other classes were to be comprised in another volume; but this is impracticable.



'The theory employed to develop these laws (viz. of crystallisation) rests on a fact which has been hitherto supposed rather than demonstrated. It consists in this, that the minute solids which are the elements of crystals, *and which I call the integrant molecules*, have, in every individual belonging to the same species, an invariable form; the planes of which are, in the direction of the natural joints, pointed out by the mechanical division of these crystals, whose respective angles and dimensions are ascertained by calculation joined with observation. Added to this, the integrant molecules relative to different species are more or less pointedly different, except in a very few cases, where the forms have regular characters, and constitute the connexion between different species. The determination therefore of integral molecules has a considerable influence on that of species; and this consideration has often conducted me, either in subdividing into many species a group which in the common methods created one alone, or in uniting the scattered limbs of a single species, of which many distinct ones had been made.'

'The result of my labours, supposing them to be as complete as possible, can only be regarded as an introduction to the study of nature. The different substances of which this globe consists, placed in their respective positions by the concurrence of the causes, *whose actions the Supreme Being has directed to the end which seemed most suitable to his wisdom*, offer a spectacle wholly new, even to the eye most experienced in viewing minerals brought from their native beds to our cabinets. Here we behold them arranged and disposed in a systematic order; but nature, on every side despising the artificial limits traced by our systems, separates what we have united, and confounds what we have chosen to separate. On one side she disjoins, by striking contrasts, substances which touch and adhere to each other; on the other, she manages those progressive changes from one substance to another, those successions of shades, which say to an attentive and enlightened observer, Here we no longer belong either to *this* fossil or *that*.'

M. Haüy next explains his own plan of arrangement, and the circumstances which influence him in forming his genera from species and varieties. We own that we wished to have enlarged on this subject; to have shown that Buffon had in this place committed a fundamental error in his celebrated canon—that science formed species; and that Werner's method was equally erroneous. The method of determining species, the most important part of classification, employed by botanists and zoölogists, cannot here be practised; and the philosopher must, in part, be directed by his own opinions,

perhaps by his fancy. M. Haüy's system is the least exceptionable of any. He adopts, as we have said, in his more extensive arrangements, the chemical analysis; but, in species, the more constant and obvious characters, particularly the form of the crystals: yet, as this is the most distinguished part of the present work, it is necessary to enlarge farther on it, especially—we speak it with regret—as this part of mineralogy has been too much neglected by English mineralogists.

Minerals have nothing constant in their external aspect; and, to recognise species concealed under an uncommon form, much ingenuity is often required. M. Haüy's dexterity demands our praise. An accidental observation led him to subdivide the hexaëdral prism of carbonated lime in the direction of his laminæ; and he discovered a rhomboidal nucleus similar to the bodies called Iceland spar. Other calcareous crystals, examined in the same manner, afforded a similar result. From these observations, combined with many others on minerals of very different kinds, he concluded that crystals belonging to the same species contained a nucleus, which was a solid that might be styled the primitive form. On subdividing the different nuclei determined from observation, he ascertained the form of what he calls the 'integrant molecules,' which, in every known mineral, are only three in number, and of peculiar simplicity; viz. the regular tetraëdon, the triangular prism, and the parallelopiped. In studying the progressive structure of what may be called the secondary forms, he conceived that they might result from a superposition of laminæ, which, departing from the primitive structure, might decrease by a regular subtraction of one or more ranks of integrant molecules. This departure may sometimes take place from the sides of the nucleus, and sometimes from its angles. To these subtractions he gives the appellation of 'laws of decrease;' and from this point begins a series of rigorous geometrical calculation, which we cannot abridge. This calculation conducts him to a precise determination of the angles, planes, and solids, of the secondary forms; and the constant agreement between the angles, produced by calculation and by observation, is the best demonstration of the truth of the laws. A general formula thus becomes, in the hands of the author, an instrument, by means of which, without any difficulty, with the assistance of some undoubted facts, he determines not only the forms hitherto known, but all those which *can* occur, and of which many certainly exist in nature; thus anticipating future discoveries. His inquiries into the nature of crystals have conducted him to this general principle,—'that all those which belong to the same species are composed of similar integrant molecules, the form and dimensions of which are determined by observation, assisted by calculation.' From the consideration of these molecules, he



has reduced to the same species bodies arranged in molecules widely different, and separated those formerly associated without sufficient foundation. In all these instances, as we have already remarked—to adopt his own words—chemical analysis has supported the arrangement of the crystallographer.

Romé de l'Isle, whose work is spoken of by our author with great respect,—and which in truth contains a vast treasure of mineralogical information,—established *his* species from the forms combined with concomitant hardness and specific gravity; but he stopped at the surface, instead of penetrating the interior mechanism of the structure. He suspected that there were primitive forms, but he did not always ascertain them with accuracy: they are chosen indiscriminately; and many are very distant from the true ones, ascertained by mechanical division. He was embarrassed also in the application of his principle to the secondary forms, which retain no resemblance of the adopted primitive; and, in consequence of this difficulty, he sometimes admits two different primitive forms in each species. On the contrary, by the assistance of our author's theory, we may be certain of discovering whether any given form can exist among the varieties of a particular species, or whether it should be excluded from it. What is of more consequence, this naturalist, instead of stopping at the primitive forms themselves, afforded by mechanical division, which are the only data proper to facilitate the applications of his theory, has taken, for the foundation of his species, the elements of the crystallisation; that is, the integrant molecules resulting from the subdivision of the primitive forms, and which often differ from them. It was calculation only—a mean which De l'Isle has not employed—that could establish the specific differences between the molecules of the same genus: such are those between the equilateral triangular prism, and the prism with square bases, in determining the particular relation which exists in each species between the dimensions of the prism that nature employs in the production of crystals which belong to this species.

About the time when M. Haüy published his first essays on the structure of minerals, the Academy of Sciences received a memoir from M. Bergman, in which he proposed the reduction of all the figures of calcareous spar to the primitive rhomboid. He had remarked the position of the nucleus in the dodecaëdron with scalene triangular faces, of the variety styled the 'hog's-toothed spar.' He considered it as produced by the superposition of planes, which decreased around the primitive rhomboid, in separating from the lateral angles. He even verified this explanation by fracture, which is wholly conformable to nature; but he stopped short at this first view, and did not think of determining, by the help of calculation,



either the laws of decrease, or the form of the integrant molecules. With respect to the secondary figures, he indulged some hypothetical conjectures, scarcely supported by observation—a remarkable example of the failure of the most acute genius, when not assisted by more rigorous methods of inquiry. By founding crystallography on calculation, M. Haüy has created a science which no fashion can destroy: it rests on a foundation as certain as the Newtonian system of the world; and has contributed to fill many vacuities in the series, which were apparently wanting in former systems. The reader will find that the author's theory is simple in its method, certain in its principles—resting on facts afforded by undoubted observation and unequivocal evidence. It reposes on this—the existence of a primitive form, the faces of which coincide with the natural joints of crystals; and the whole is supported *so far* by the nature of every known mineral. It is indeed so well founded and supported, that it has often anticipated analysis, and has been supported in turn by chemical investigation. In this work the system is explained in two ways; viz. by reasoning, assisted by figures, which illustrate the progress of the decrease; 2dly, by analysis, which supposes only a common acquaintance with geometry. Some new geometrical properties are interspersed, which would, independent of mineralogy, interest the geometer.

The species in this work are determined by characters, the most constant and the most unexceptionable, as they are connected with the constitution of the integrant molecule. They are of three kinds, viz. physical, geometrical, and chemical. Among the former are, the specific gravity ascertained by Mr. Nicholson's hydrometer, at 14° of Reaumur; hardness, ascertained by the property of scratching a given body; refraction of light, showing objects single or double; electricity, acquired by heat or rubbing; and phosphorescence, either in consequence of rubbing, or the projection of its powder on hot coals. The geometrical characters are those afforded by a mechanical division, joined to a measure of the angles, which together form the natural joints. The chemical characters are those ascertained by the most simple and easy experiments, with the blow-pipe, acids, or alkalis.

After describing each species in all these views, it is subdivided into varieties, of which some relate to the forms, either regular or undeterminable; others to the 'accidents of light,' that is, to the colours and transparency. Each regular form is first represented by a sign composed of letters and ciphers, which show the 'laws of decrease,' on which the form depends; and next by a figure in projection, which is in some measure a portrait. Each species is also characterised by pointing out the principal angles, in which its relation to the other

varieties consists. The undeterminable forms are distinguished by characters drawn from the most remarkably obvious properties; and the accidents of light, which constitute the last shade of the picture, are described in general terms, chiefly drawn from familiar language. Each variety of form, whether regular or undeterminable, has its particular appellation; and, by joining this expression with its colour and transparency, the denomination is complete. We regret only that the *essential* discriminating characters are not retained in a separate section and a more concise appearance.

The analyses are those of Klaproth and Vauquelin; and from these the genera and orders are deduced. Thus each science contributes to the formation of the present system; and to each substance is subjoined its history, the different opinions of mineralogists, the foundation of their mistakes, and the means by which the truth was ascertained. To this the author adds an account of the strata,—though by no means so full and complete as in the work of his successor Brochant, lately alluded to,—as well as the use of each mineral in the arts, in domestic œconomy, and in medicine. Lapidaries, and those who are fond of the precious stones as ornamental decorations, will in this publication find methods of correcting the ideas usually derived from their colour. He gives an explanation of the different phenomena which depend on philosophical principles; as, the transparency of hydrophanous stones, in consequence of their absorbing water; the beautiful reflected irises of the opal, owing to slight fissures, which interrupt its continuity. The double refraction of the Iceland crystal claims his particular attention, as well as what relates to the electricity of minerals. On the latter subject, the most remarkable circumstances are—1. the different nature of the two electricities, usually situate near the opposite points of the crystal; 2. the constant relation which exists between the position of these two electricities, and the forms of the body, when regularly crystallised, which derogate from the symmetry so common in the crystals of other substances; from which a method of determining the positions of the two electricities, on inspection of the crystal, will follow. Our author adopts the system of M. Coulumb respecting two fluids of this kind, which he thinks will connect all the facts relating to the electricity of minerals. In this point, however, he is not always successful. On magnetism the author offers some new observations, and has shown that a much greater number of bodies possess polar magnetism than has hitherto been supposed.

The style of this work is peculiarly clear and philosophical: it sometimes rises to a polished elegance, without any affectation of ornament. We mean to return to it, if our other claims will allow: but, lest we should be prevented, or the work be



brought more directly within the reader's view by an English translation, we shall subjoin our author's arrangement; adding only that his index is tolerably full, which—as we still want a dictionary of mineralogy, a work we have anxiously wished for, and often recommended—is an object of no little consequence. Should M. Brochant's treatise have this valuable addition, it will be a publication of the highest importance, as he has annexed the synonyms of various modern authors, scarcely heard of but in Germany. M. Haüy's synonyms are not numerous, but they are select; and he particularly refers to Bergman, to Kirwan, Romé de l'Isle, and M. Brochant, whose first volume he had seen, while M. Brochant was perusing the present treatise in manuscript; so that the references to each are constant and exact.

Minerals are divided into four classes; earthy and neutral salts, earths, inflammables, and metals. The orders of the first class are,—1. earthy acidiferous substances; 2. terreous; 3. alkalino-terreous. Of the second class there are no orders or genera. The species follow each other. The reason for the neglect of divisions subordinate to the classes we cannot easily perceive: but it may be owing to the obvious nature of many earths which are very different from what they would appear from analysis. Thus some apparently pure clays contain a much larger proportion of silex than of alumine. The third class is divided into simple and compound inflammables. Among the former are sulphur, the diamond, and anthracite; among the latter amber, jet, and the different coals. The first order of the metallic bodies contains those not immediately oxydable, except with a violent heat, and immediately reducible; the second, those which are more easily oxydable, but immediately reducible; the third, those which are oxydable, and not immediately reducible.

The first appendix contains the substances, whose nature is not sufficiently ascertained to admit of their arrangement; but among these there are some sufficiently known to be introduced into the former classes, though not yet accurately analysed. The second appendix contains the different aggregates. The first order comprises the 'rocks' of primitive formation; the second, the clays and lime-stones of secondary formation, more evidently from alluvion; the third, the aggregates composed of fragments, as the pudding-stone, &c. The third appendix contains the volcanic products. These are divided into six classes,—1. the lavas; 2. the thermantides, which have the marks of a less intense fire; 3. the products of sublimation; 4. the decomposed lavas; 5. the tufas; 6. the substances formed subsequent to the melting and cooling. To these are added substances modified by the heat of subterraneous fires, not volcanic. The first class is divided into the stony, the



scorified, and the vitreous lavas. The others admit of no subdivision.

A volume of plates is added, containing the representation of the primitive crystals, with the laws of decrease; to which is prefixed a system of the characters relating to minerals. This may be styled a delineation of a mineral, resembling Linnæus's *Delineatio Plantarum*, exhibiting a description of the various characters of minerals under distinct heads, with the most striking examples in the mineral kingdom.

ART. II.—*Mémoires Secrets sur la Russie, &c.*

*Secret Memoirs concerning Russia, and particularly towards the End of the Reign of Catharine II. and the Beginning of that of Paul I.: forming a Picture of the Manners of Petersburg at the Termination of the Eighteenth Century; and containing a Number of Anecdotes, collected during a Residence of ten Years, &c. &c. 3 Vols. 8vo. Amsterdam (probably Paris). Imported by De Boffe. 1802.*

WE are sufficiently on our guard with respect to the numerous pretended memoirs that are printed in the French language. Of late years, Soulavie and others have published many fictitious pieces, sometimes too largely dilated, and at others even artfully forged. In the publication of memoirs, the production of the original manuscript ought to be insisted on; for any man of moderate talents, and a general knowledge of some events and intrigues, might easily contrive what are called memoirs, and give such a colour to his style as to make them pass for genuine.

Impressed with this consideration, we took up the present work with no small degree of distrust, which vanished, after a time, on perceiving the exuberance of singular anecdotes, and the knowledge, spirit, and character of the present narrative, which is deeply tinged with an intimate acquaintance with Russia and the events that have recently happened in that extraordinary empire: yet the style is too satirical; and the author, who seems to have been dismissed from the Russian service by Paul, exceeds the severity of Suetonius or Tacitus. His production may indeed be termed historical satire, though he sometimes labours to impart an appearance of candour by inserting a sentence or two of praise. His anecdotes would have borne more weight, if he had dedicated some chapters to an account of the splendid actions of Catharine, and a favorable representation of many events, instead of viewing only their shady side: yet the work has great merit, as forming a striking contrast to those

which our own countryman, Mr. Tooke, has compiled principally from the German concerning Russia, and which are too much impressed with that tame and servile character which our present author justly imputes to the German productions concerning that potent empire. In Mr. Tooke's work the greatest crimes of the rulers are passed in silence, and every thing is painted in the most favorable colours. The slavish appellation of *the residence* is applied to Petersburg, &c. because the emperor resides there; and the whole history partakes too much of eulogy or panegyric to satisfy an unbiased inquirer. Here, on the contrary, and in the travels of Chappe, there is too much of satire and detraction; but they balance the account, and leave a just general impression concerning Russia.

In the preface the author apologises for his style, as that of a Frenchman who left his country in his infancy. He says that the proscription of which he was a victim in Russia did not inspire him with the design of these memoirs, though his indignation had imparted courage enough to publish them. He adds, that they were begun long since in the palace of the tzars, but that many of the materials were lost on his leaving the country. He mentions the German writings concerning Russia, as the works of fawning and interested adulators, with the exception of those of count Sternberg, and some other late productions, which seem to have opened the eyes of the Germans with regard to the usurping and domineering character of their powerful neighbour. An advertisement is prefixed by the editor, from which we learn that the author quitted Russia in 1797.

The work is divided into chapters of considerable length; those in the first volume relate to the king of Sweden's visit to Petersburg; the last illness and death of Catharine II.; her favorites and debaucheries; the accession of Paul; with an inquiry, not a little curious for the period, whether he had reason to fear the fate of Peter the Third.

Such is the exuberance of anecdotes and interesting matter, that there is a difficulty in forming a choice of some extracts for the entertainment of our readers: we shall therefore take a few here and there, without further premeditation, after having premised that some of the most curious are to be found in the notes.

Of all the ambassadors employed by Catharine, the count Stackelberg displayed the most wit and pride, particularly in Poland. Thugut having been sent thither by the emperor of Germany, was, on the day of being admitted to an audience by the Polish monarch, introduced into a saloon, where, seeing a man gravely seated, and surrounded by Polish lords who were standing respectfully before him, Thugut took him for the king,



and began his compliment. Stackelberg did not hasten to undeceive him; and when the Austrian envoy discovered the mistake, he was greatly piqued and ashamed. That evening, playing at cards with the king and Stackelberg, he threw down a card, saying "the king of clubs." "A mistake," said the monarch, "it is the knave." The Austrian, pretending no design, struck his forehead, and exclaimed, "Ah, sire! pardon me—this is the second time to-day that I have taken a knave for a king!" Stackelberg, though very prompt at repartee, could only bite his lips.

The interruption of the marriage between the king of Sweden and the grand-daughter of Catharine forms a curious circumstance in this narrative. The transition of the young lady from the Greek faith to the Protestant having been fanatically opposed by the Russian clergy, Catharine, in the plenitude of female will, resolved to make a queen of Sweden of the Greek religion, with a chapel, and numerous priests devoted to the Russian interests. A clause to this effect was introduced into the contract, which was to have been signed on the tenth of September O. S.

On that day the happy, the imperious Catharine, underwent the greatest chagrin, and even humiliation, that she had ever encountered. All the court was ordered to assemble in gala, in the chamber of the throne: the young princess, dressed as a bride, and accompanied by her sisters, the grand dukes and their wives, all the ladies, all the gentlemen,—and the grand duke Paul, father of the bride, with the grand duchess, having come from Gatschina to witness the espousals of their daughter,—assembled at seven o'clock in the evening: the empress arrived in all her pomp, and none was absent except the future husband, whose want of punctuality surprised every body. Frequent entrances and departures of the prince Zoubof, who was to arrange the affair of the contract and procure the final signature of the Swedish monarch, and the visible impatience which the empress displayed, soon excited the curiosity and the whispers of the ladies. What has happened? Is the king ill? He is at least not very gallant! How dares he make the *sovereign* wait so in the chamber of her throne, and her whole court assembled? Meanwhile this king, who was waited for with as much impatience as the husband of the eleven thousand virgins, did not appear.

This strange delay was occasioned by the following circumstances. The king of Sweden was to have gone to court at seven o'clock in the evening: at six o'clock the diplomatic Markof brought him the contract and the articles of the alliance, which he had drawn up in conjunction with Zoubof. Gustavus having carefully perused them, appeared much astonished at



discovering articles which he had not settled with the empress, and inquired if she had sent to request his signature of such conditions?

‘ Markof having answered in the affirmative, the king replied, that the matter was an absolute impossibility. He observed that he did not wish to constrain the conscience of the princess; that she was welcome to the private profession of her religion; but that he could not grant a Greek chapel, or clergy, the royal palace of Sweden; and that in public, and on all days of ceremony, she must, on the contrary, profess the religion of the country. Imagine the surprise and embarrassment of the shallow Markof: he was obliged to take back his papers, and to tell Zoubof that the king refused to sign. Markof soon returned in the greatest agitation, to say that the empress had already arrived in the chamber of the throne, where the whole court was assembled; that it was not possible for him to speak to her; that she expected the king, and it was hoped that he would not make a rupture—that would be an unheard-of affront to the sovereign, to the young princess, and the whole empire. Besborodko and many others came successively, exhorting, pressing, entreating the king to yield; and all the Swedes who were called in were of that opinion. The regent was content with saying that it depended on the king; yet he took him apart, and walked round the chamber, talking to him in whispers; while the king answered him in a loud voice, “No, no; I will not, I cannot, I will not sign.”

Yet the affair seems to have been preconcerted.—The demand of a chapel and priests is preceded in England in the reign of Charles the First; and religion rarely appears as a real political cause in modern times. After a short period, pretexts might have been found to shut up the chapel, and dismiss the Russian clergy. The princess certainly suffered greatly by the sudden explosion; and the feelings of Gustavus should have prevented the affair from proceeding to such a crisis; nor do any offers of modification appear to have been made on the Swedish side. Yet it is possible that a spirited and sensible prince might be impressed with sudden and irresistible resentment at the insult offered to his understanding by the sudden introduction of degrading articles, particularly if he regarded the clauses concerning the Greek church, &c. as assertions of a pretended superiority of the Russian empire over his kingdom. The empress, according to our author, was quite confounded, and stammered greatly when she heard the king’s final determination; and immediately left the court, pretending illness; while she was, in fact, seized with a slight degree of that apoplexy which, not long after, terminated her existence.

The account of the Polish embassy, vol. i. p. 61, is not a

little singular, as it shows what a complete perversion of intellect despotism may introduce. The ambassador said that the empress had spoken, and *despotism*, which was ready to seize the throne of Poland, had fallen like an idol. The despotism was the Polish constitution of the 3d of May! A pamphlet was also published under her auspices, in which all the grandees of Poland were called Jacobins, and the king a factious fellow. The violation of justice is commonly attended with the violation of truth.

Catharine affected at first to neglect the French revolution; but, after the sudden death of the emperor Leopold, and the assassination of the Swedish king, she began to tremble, haunted perhaps by remorse; for they were innocent monarchs; and she was stained with a husband's blood, the deep tint of which was increased with the scarlet of other murders. She ordered the bust of Voltaire to be withdrawn from her gallery; and Fox having opposed the war against France, his bust was also concealed: *Et præcellabant, quia imagines eorum non visebantur.*

From vol. i. p. 111, we learn that a lieutenant of the police at Petersburg was so ignorant as to confiscate Tissot's medical work called *Advice to the People*; saying that the people had no occasion for any advice, and that it must be a very dangerous book. But our memoirist certainly pushes his satirism too far when he asserts that no good work was produced in Russia during the reign of Catharine II. except the Travels of Pallas and the Historical Researches of Müller, the latter being celebrated by the adage of Voltaire, whose ridiculous and pretended history of Peter I. he had criticised:—'He is a German. I wish him more sense and fewer consonants.'

From vol. i. p. 126, we learn that 240 towns are said to have been built by Catharine; while the greater part were miserable hamlets, the name only being changed by imperial edict, just as the wise emperor Paul ordered that every yacht should be called a frigate; and some of these miserable towns do not consist of houses, but of a post stuck up with a name upon it, the building being left to posterity. Our author observes, with republican spirit, upon this occasion, that despots can build nothing except prisons and barracks; but supposing men to be storks, they think if they set up a wheel they can build a nest; while cities can only be founded by commerce and liberty. It is, however, rather a blemish in this work that the author sometimes betrays too intolerant principles and too warm an attachment to his own party. When Catharine met the emperor Joseph, she invited him to lay the second stone of a city of which she laid the first. The emperor sarcastically observed, 'I have finished a great business in one day with the empress of Russia. She laid the first stone of a town, and I the last.'

The German descriptions of Petersburg are blamed by the



author as flattering and overcharged. He remarks a singular mistake of professor Giorgi. 'He does the author of these memoirs the honour of naming him among the literary men; but confounding names, quality, and works, he makes only one person of general Melissino, major M. and his brother: and yet he was at Petersburg and knew them all! After this you may trust such descriptions, if you please.'

From this perhaps the skilful may guess the name of the author.

'At Petersburg the Germans are artists or tradesmen, particularly tailors and shoemakers—the English, sadlers or merchants—the Italians, architects, singers, and sculptors: but we do not know what the French are, as they change their employments every year. They often arrive as lacqueys, and become counsellors, or any thing. Sometimes a Frenchman is one year an actor, another a private tutor, another a merchant, another a musician, another an officer in the army; when he begins his round again, or becomes what he pleases. No-where are your Frenchmen observed to be more inconstant, enterprising, ingenious, and fit for any thing.

'To perceive the manners and character of each nation, you must visit the interior of the houses; for in the streets all is Russian. The French amuse themselves with plays of wit, supping gaily, and singing merry songs; the English dine at five o'clock, drink punch, and chatter trade; the Italians have music, dance, laugh, and gesticulate, when their conversation turns on shows and the arts; the Germans talk of the sciences, smoke tobacco, discuss and eat deeply, and pay each other a great number of compliments. Among the Russians every thing is *pell-mell*; but gaming is the chief pursuit, being the soul of their societies and pleasures, though not to the exclusion of other diversions. The stranger, particularly the Frenchman, was surprised and enchanted, after having visited the inhospitable shores of Prussia, and the wild plains of Livonia, to find in the midst of a vast desert an immense and superb city, with societies, pleasures, arts, and tastes, which he had conceived only to exist in Paris.'

At the palace of Tzarsko Selo, which stands in a marshy desert, there is a strange mixture of monuments, erected in honour of the Russian victors, of favorite dogs, and of Lanskoi the most beloved favourite of the late empress; whence our author sarcastically infers, that a hero, a dog, and a lover, must be much the same object in the eyes of a female despot.

The chapter concerning the favorites is too much in the style of Suetonius to admit of any extract. In the next chapter the author considers the accession of Paul. By his account, it is



pretty generally believed at the court of Russia that Paul was the son of Soltykof, one of the first favorites of Catharine; and that in person he had no resemblance whatever to Peter the Third; while he was equally unlike his mother. At first he displayed goodness of heart, and other amiable qualities, which the cruelty of his mother stifled by bad treatment, and a constant series of repeated vexations, which an embittered female alone would have imagined or employed. He was kept in non-age by the usurper of his throne, not admitted to see his own children, surrounded with spies, constrained, harassed, humiliated, living retired and insignificant, and sometimes in want of common necessities; while the minions of his mother were wallowing in profuse wealth. She thus succeeded in rendering him peevish, distrustful, harsh, whimsical, suspicious, and cruel. Like any other animal constantly teased, his original habits were completely altered.

These observations impress an appearance of truth and candour on the subsequent narrative of Paul's despotic oddities. Accustomed to be vexed in trifles, his attention was chiefly directed towards them; while, if they had never given him pain, his mind might, in the contemplation of great objects, have passed the smaller with complete indifference. His trifling regulations sometimes led to serious and dreadful consequences.

The brigadier-general Likarof being taken ill at his country-house near Petersburg, his affectionate wife would trust no messenger, but went herself to the city to bring a physician. People in the country did not yet know the new emperor, and still less his new regulations. Having ordered her servants to make all the speed possible, her carriage unhappily passed, without stopping, at a short distance from Paul, who was on horseback. In a rage, he immediately sent an aide-de-camp, who stopped the equipage, ordered the four servants to be enlisted as soldiers, and the impertinent lady to be sent to jail. These orders were executed immediately; and this unhappy woman was confined for four days. This horrible treatment, and the condition in which she had left her husband, wounded her heart and affected her brain. A burning fever was the consequence; and she was carried to an hotel to be attended: but her reason was gone for ever. Her husband, thus abandoned, left without medical assistance, deprived of his wife and of his domestics, expired in despair, without ever seeing her again.

This singular attention to trifling marks of respect, which seems to have formed the very spring of Paul's insanity, might easily be traced, by a philosophical inquirer into mental diseases, to the constant disrespect shown in trifles, which he was accustomed to suffer during the reign of his mother.

The anecdotes of Souworof, or Souwarrow, are not a little singular, but scattered at intervals through the work.

‘A stranger, having heard the name of *Souworof* resound throughout Europe, might, on his first arrival in Russia, wish to see this hero. There appeared a little old man, of a lank and shriveled figure, jumping upon one leg through the apartments of the palace, or running and playing in the streets followed by a crowd of children, to whom he threw apples to make them fight, and crying to them, “*I am Souworof! I am Souworof!*”—If the stranger could with difficulty recognise in this old fool the conqueror of the Turks and of the Poles, he might, however, reasonably suspect, from the haggard and ferocious eyes, and from the frothing and horrible mouth, that this was the devourer of the inhabitants of Praga. Souworof would have only been a ridiculous buffoon if he had not been a most barbarous warrior. He was a monster who, in the body of an ape, had the soul of a butcher’s dog.’

Equal compliments are by our bold author addressed to the emperor Paul during his life-time. When in his youth he visited Paris, the polite populace could not help exclaiming, “*My good God, how ugly he is!*”—And our author adds, that—

‘Without offence to any savage whatever, Paul was certainly the ugliest man in his whole empire. He was himself so sensible of this deformity, that he forbade any impression of his face to appear on the current coin; which only bore his cipher, with the Scriptural phrase, “Not to us, but to thy name.” A soldier suffering severely under the rod for some trifling failure in discipline, happened to exclaim, “Oh you cursed *bald head!*” An edict immediately appeared, ordering that the words *bald head*, and *snub nose*, should not be used throughout the empire under pain of death.’

We are far from pretending to warrant many of these anecdotes, which are doubtless exaggerated by the author’s indignation. But, having already warned our readers of the satirical nature of this work, we translate them for their amusement, trusting the veracity to their own censure.

We now pass to the second volume, the chief chapters of which are upon the revolutions which may probably happen in Russia, the national character and religion, the influence of the fair sex, the state of education, the persecution of the French in Russia, and a description of a great festival given by prince Potemkin to Catharine.

This volume begins with some observations on the state of despotism in Russia, which our author describes as a dark atmosphere, separating the Russian from other nations, and pre-



serving them from every approach of the light of reason. After displaying his usual wit and knowledge, he observes that the Russians are nevertheless free from three capital errors which disgrace the rest of Europe. No Russian will seek to revenge an affront by committing murder in what is called a *duel*. The country has never been stained with any war or massacre occasioned by religious fanaticism. Lastly, the Russians have never regarded birth as superior to merit. Yet this last praise seems to be derived from that despotism which levels all ranks. Returning to the satirical vein, he brands drunkenness and theft as the ruling vices of the country; and he adds, ironically, that an English author, who has published a book on the resemblance between the Russians and the Greeks, and who has proved that they ate, sang, and slept, exactly like the latter, has forgotten to add that they are far superior thieves. He lays open with a skilful hand the character of the Russian soldiery, who seem absolutely to devote themselves to their trade and their commanders.

‘ At the siege of Oczakow, a piquet, advancing to occupy a post, were informed that it was seized by the Turks, and if they did not retreat, they would encounter certain death. “What is that to us?” said one of the soldiers: “Prince Dolgorousky must answer that.” Not a man returned.

‘ At the attack of Kimburg by the Turks, Souworof, who was drunk, advanced at the head of the garrison to repel the enemy. The Russians bent before the first shock, and began to flee, when a soldier in a rage stopped them with his bayonet, forced them to return, and charged at their head, as if he had been their officer. Catharine, informed of this action, which was the cause of the first victory in that war, sent an officer’s commission to this brave fellow: but he refused it; saying, “that he could not write, and that he would rather be a good soldier than a bad officer.” The empress sent him a medal of gold, with a pension of three hundred roubles.—This great woman was, however, innately cruel: she blamed *the holy humanity*, as she termed it, of Repnin, and sent the tiger Souworof in his stead; and she said to two courtiers, who were playing at chess, “I amuse myself by killing Poles.”

In his account of the manners of the Russian women, our author displays his usual spirit and intrepidity. He seems to consider the compassion commonly ascribed to the sex as rather a weakness of the nerve than a quality of the soul, and to think that, as cowards, they must necessarily be cruel.

‘ I am not the first who has observed that in Russia the women are generally more wicked, more cruel, and more barbarous than the men—because they are a great deal more igno-

rant and more superstitious. They do not travel, receive little instruction, and do not work at all. Always surrounded with slaves to gratify or anticipate their wishes, the Russian ladies pass their time stretched on a couch, or at a gaming table. They are seldom seen to read—still more seldom occupied in little works, or household concerns; and those whom a foreign education has not improved are in fact still barbarians.'

The author then compares them with the Roman ladies, as described by Juvenal; and offers several shocking instances of female cruelty singularly conjoined with immodesty.

Some singular anecdotes are given concerning the imperial children, who first learned the difference of sex from the lectures of Pallas on botany. The state of slavery in Russia also furnishes some curious details. The following advertisement is copied from a Russian newspaper.

'If any one wishes to buy a complete family, or a young man and a young girl apart, inquire at the silk-cleaner's opposite the church at Cavan. The young man, called Iwan, is aged twenty-one: he is healthy, stout, and can frizzle a lady's hair. The girl, who is well made and plump, is called Murpha, aged fifteen, and can sew and embroider. To be examined; and had at a reasonable price.'

The punishment of d'Orbeil, on some very trifling suspicion of Jacobinism, vol. ii. p. 193, is a shocking additional instance of Catharine's cruelty; and many examples are adduced of the fantastic despotism of Paul. But when our author proceeds, vol. ii. p. 217, to mention that a brother of Marat lived openly at Petersburg while the unhappy French were massacred at London, Vienna, Naples, and Rome, we must loudly reprobate such an absurd and injurious calumny; as it is perfectly known to every inhabitant of the British empire, that not one Frenchman was massacred, or even wounded, except in open war, throughout the united kingdom.

The third volume is not inferior in interest to the two former, and has the advantage of having been published after the death of Paul: nor can our author abstain from exulting in the just ideas which he had before presented concerning the reign of that unhappy prince. The last war in Persia, the state of the finances, the Cossacks, the expeditions against the French in Italy and Switzerland, and several historical anecdotes, compose this last volume; which also contains an appendix of original papers translated from the Russian.

The writer is uniform in his applause of the character and qualities of the reigning emperor, Alexander—whose person, as he remarks, bears some resemblance to Peter the Great. On the Persian war the details are curious and seemingly au-



thentic. But our author surely brings an unjust charge against Mr. Tooke, when he accuses him of being one of the spies who visited the Caspian to promote schemes for the English commerce. We believe, on the contrary, that Mr. Tooke never passed so far south as Moscow; and his books on Russia consist of translations from the German and French, which he might have executed in London as well as at Petersburg. There is also a long note blaming Mr. Tooke for his flattering representations respecting the Russian commerce and slavery.

The note, vol. iii. p. 103, concerning the fate of the able conductor of the mines of Kolivan, is curious, as it shows the abominable intrigues of the Russian courtiers. These mines were ruined, at least for a time, by a privilege granted to a covetous *prince* of selling brandy in Siberia, which debauched the workmen, and ruined their labours. In the chapter on the Cossaks is given a singular instance of the bad effects of geographical ignorance in war; an old map in which villages were marked, which no longer existed, having occasioned the loss of many soldiers. The subsidiary treaty between Russia and England is branded, p. 177, as the first of that degrading kind which the empire had entered into. On that coalition, our democratic author observes, 'you may here behold into what a labyrinth of contradictions and absurdities that weak diplomatic spirit wanders, which pretends to produce good by a combination of evils, and to derive true results from errors or falsehoods. Simple truths, plain principles of common sense, morality, and justice, are the eternal sources of public safety, and the prosperity of states. Wherever policy does not assume them for the basis of its speculations, it will necessarily be the most absurd of all arts, and the most pernicious to humanity.'

Our author also, p. 205, offers some severe observations on the massacre of the French envoys at Rastadt, which he boldly imputes to the then British ministry, as well as the attempt upon the life of Buonaparte by means of the infernal machine. This we regard as mere satire, like the imaginary massacre of the French in London. In a note, he seems to allow that the murder of the deputies may have been casual, proceeding, as the archduke Charles asserted, from want of discipline in an advanced post. The anecdotes of Souworof are curious. He had been disgraced by the emperor Paul, at the beginning of his reign, for inattention to fantastic edicts concerning the dress of the soldiers; but the solicitations of Austria and England prevailed on the emperor to give Souworof the command of the troops destined against France. On his road to Vienna, this sanguinary warrior exhibited affected symptoms of the grossest superstition; so that the court of Vienna was puzzled to discover whether he venerated or ridiculed the catholic creed. By

this account, he only assisted and followed up the success of the Austrian generals; and the defeat of Scherer was regarded as the most complete and disastrous which the French sustained during the whole war. But Paul, intoxicated with the success of the Russians, not only conferred on Souworof the title of Italiski, but, with his usual caprice, ordered, by an edict, that this warrior should be regarded as the greatest of all generals ancient and modern.

The account of the Russian and French conflicts in Switzerland forms another interesting chapter; and the description of that memorable battle which decided the destinies of France in the vale of Zurich is enlivened with many anecdotes derived from an officer who was present. After the death of Hotze, and the defeat of the Russian general Korsakof, Souworof arrived too late; yet our author allows that he retreated like a lion, while Massena in vain endeavoured to entice him out of his defiles. 'He abandoned some baggage, some artillery, some sick and wounded; but general Mortier, who was charged to pursue him in the Muttenthal, could only reach two or three battalions of grenadiers, who devoted themselves to save the rest of the army. I do not know if Souworof were invincible; but it is certain that he died unconquered. No general can boast of having beaten Souworof, and very few have, like him, carried this glory to the tomb, after having persevered in war for forty years, sometimes against barbarous, and sometimes against polished nations.'

Several new anecdotes are then given of this very singular character. After the defeat of the Russians, and his own retreat, he became silent and melancholy, nor could he abstain from open blame of the Austrians. Paul embraced the same resentments; but his favorite tiger having arrived at Petersburg, alighted at the house of one of his nephews, and never afterwards arose from his bed. We should have wished for a few anecdotes of the last illness and death of Souworof, which may probably still be supplied by some foreigner residing at Petersburg. Such a combination of circumstances united to form Souworof, that Russia will probably never again produce a like character; though our author repeats the observation of the German philosopher Kant, that war is the powerful mean of dispersing nations, or assembling them together; and that, without war, there would be neither peace nor legitimate relations between them. The anger and disgust of the Russian emperor were inflamed to the utmost degree by the refusal of Malta; and he openly spoke of the English as a nation of Israelites.

In a note, p. 353, our author imputes the misfortunes of Switzerland to the pride, the political immorality, and the venality of the Bernese rulers, who sacrificed the country to their



petty interests. This opinion seems to rest on such decisive facts, that we are amazed at the want of common candour in Mr. Coxe's introduction to his last edition, which rather wears the aspect of a party pamphlet than of the calm decision of a man of letters, whose judgement may be weighed by posterity. But we have already offered some remarks on these topics in our review of Mr. Planta's History of Switzerland.

In our author's opinion, p. 370, if the coalesced powers had succeeded, they intended to have placed Lutherism and Calvinism within the pale of the catholic church, to which the Greek religion was to have been united; and the battles of Zurich and Marengo alone saved poor human nature from returning to its swaddling clothes. Such are our author's expressions;—but a conquest over the mind is not easily acquired. Some speculations are afterwards added on the unexpected connexions between Paul and Buonaparte. The establishment of a grand military parade by the French here seems to have been a leading motive with the capricious emperor, who might perhaps argue, that monarchy was more likely to be restored in France by a mere reversion of opinion than by the power of arms, which could only supply fuel to the enmity against it. The alarm at revolution had become a mere pretext with the neighbouring powers, who merely wished for the acquisition of French provinces; and of this Paul soon became sensible, as appears from his extravagant challenge. Having been made the dupe of their designs, and the affair of Malta having sufficiently proved that no advantage whatever was intended to be conferred on him, his resentment is not matter of wonder. As choler was his predominant habit, it was natural that his prejudices and enmity against France should yield to his fresh and violent rage against the coalesced powers, the instruments of real disasters and disgraces; while against France he had no personal reason of offence, and he of course may be said to have embraced her cause from a sympathy of enmities.

In another note, the doctrine of Kant concerning a perpetual peace is illustrated. That philosopher justly ridicules the idea of Pope, that the best government is that which is best administered; as, if the form be bad, the most tyrannical administration may succeed the best; and it is the very essence of a good government to provide against the possibility of such an event. From this note it also appears, that in Prussia a system of pure deism, united with the sound morality of Jesus, is publicly taught in many churches under the title of rational Christianity. That country is here said to enjoy a most wise and moderate government, the danger of democratic principles being completely obviated by the mild wisdom and universal equity of the monarchy.

Towards the end of this last volume there are some curious additional anecdotes. Those concerning the Russian ladies and gentlemen, whose neglect of personal cleanliness exposes them to be always infested with certain creeping vermin, will scarcely bear translation. Yet one extract may be chosen, as the dignity of the personage may serve to hide its general disgust. 'In St. Petersburg, or in Moscowitz, it is not uncommon to see hucksters draw a circle on a bench, where each places his louse in the centre. He whose little courser first passes from the centre to the circumference of the circle gains the prize of this odd Newmarket. Peter the Great used sometimes to play at this game in the alehouses, and other places which he loved to frequent incognito; and it is said that this celebrated prince was never at all loss to find in his hair as vigorous an animal as any competitor could produce.' The anecdotes of Russian slavery are singular; and some instances are produced of those petty mortifications, by which the empress Catharine degraded and distracted the mind of her successor, and thus prepared his future misfortunes.

Upon the whole, we have no doubt of the authenticity of the greater part of these curious Memoirs, and may safely recommend them to our readers as a rich fund of instruction and entertainment. The French now write with so much classical freedom, that, if a translation were attempted, some very naked passages could only appear as notes in the original language, or still more properly in a Latin translation.

ART. III.—*Annales de Chymie. Tomes XXXVI et XXXVII, Paris.*

*Annals of Chemistry. (Continued from Vol. XXXIII. p. 523.)*

THE first number of the thirty-sixth volume commences in the ninth year of the republic, answering nearly to our 1801; but, in reality, published in September 1800. It is not peculiarly interesting, but contains continuations of Chaptal's Treatise on Wines, and of Losel's Art of making Glass. These Annals have now continued so long with unimpaired credit, that the collection is become very valuable; and it is no small ornament to the Critical Review, that it has attended their progressive publication with peculiar care. The more important articles are in general abridged; and the objects of those which do not admit of abridgment are constantly pointed out.

As the fortieth volume is now completed, we would strenuously recommend a full and accurate index.

After the continuation of M. Chaptal's memoir, we find a



'Description of a Support of Balances of all dimensions, adapted to render the experiments made with them more expeditious and convenient, without any diminution of their precision.' Artists have invented different supports, as weighing by the hand is extremely inconvenient; but these are adapted only for a single balance, and are very expensive. The present is of more universal use, and easily constructed; but the description depends on the plate, and is incapable of abridgment.

'Observations on the Constitution of different Kinds of Steel, particularly on the Steel obtained directly from the Kind of Iron called Natural Steel.' We have often found, in foreign memoirs, methods of tempering steel which render it equal to the English: but the successive volumes describe other methods; thus virtually disproving those of their predecessors. It appears that the best natural steel is not only a combination of iron with carbone, but with manganese, in a twofold proportion of the carbone.

'Extract of a letter of M. Abilgaard, secretary of the society of Copenhagen, to M. Huzard, of the National Institute.' This extract contains some comparative experiments on the proportion of carbone in the arterial and venous blood of a horse. A larger quantity of carbone occurred in the former. In the next article, M. Prieur 'claims the invention of parachutes,' and describes those of which he had formerly given an account to the Academy of Lyons.

'A memoir on the Fabrication of Wedgwood's Pyrometrical Cylinders, by M. Guzeran.' If we mistake not, Mr. Wedgwood published an analysis of the clay he employed, and offered to supply every chemical philosopher gratuitously. It is not improper however to investigate analytically the best kind. We need not be minute; but may add, that, if we take clays containing .034 of alumine, and add as much pure silex as will make the composition equally refractory with those of Wedgwood, the retraction will be the same. The flint is about 0.043.

'An Elementary Course of Pharmaceutical Natural History, by S. Morelot.' The abstract of this work does not prepossess us greatly in its favour. It is, in reality, a course of natural history, and not a very important one, in which pharmacy appears only to occur incidentally.

'Analysis of a Stone called Gadolinite, with an Explanation of some of the Properties of the new Earth which it contains, by M. Vauquelin.' Of this new earth we have already spoken; but its properties have been imperfectly noticed. The gadolinite is of a black colour, and its powder of a greyish black. It breaks like glass, and its specific gravity is 4.0497, moving sensibly the magnetic needle. Exposed to the flame of the blow-pipe, it cracks in little fragments, thrown out like sparks, with

a smart noise. The remainder is of a greyish white, and does not melt completely. Heated with borax, it melts, and communicates to the salt a yellow colour, bordering on violet. In the fire it loses .08; but the loss is really .011, if the quantity of oxygen which the iron absorbs be allowed for. It contains of the new earth called *yttria* .035; of flint and oxyd of iron each .025, with a little manganese and lime;—more correctly, about 60 of *yttria*, 21 of flint, and 18 of iron. There is always a considerable loss, which arises from the *yttria* containing water, or the escape of carbonic acid gas. The particular properties of the *yttria* we cannot transcribe. It greatly resembles the glucine, but differs from it by being insoluble in pure fixed alkalis, and with some difficulty soluble in carbonate of ammonia. The sulphat of *yttria* also has little solubility; while the glucine is easily soluble in sulphuric acid. *Yttria* is precipitated from its solution by the oxalic acid and prussiat of potash, but the glucine is not. Its salts also are coloured; and it thus forms the connecting medium between earths and metallic oxyd. Thus, admitting the agustine, we have already *ten earths*; but a new one has appeared from America, called, on this account, *Columbium*. When the discovery is better ascertained, we shall introduce some description of this new star from the *West*. It is said to have been first detected by Mr. Hatchett; and it is with regret that we observe the *first publication of it in a French journal*. The columbium, with a large proportion of oxygen, is said to become an acid.

‘Analysis of the Mineral Waters of Tongres, by M. Payssé.’ These waters are a chalybeate of no great powers, and contain about an equal proportion of carbonate of magnesia.

‘A critical Examination of the Commentary published by Wiegleb, on the Change of Water into Gas, by Van Mons.’ Wiegleb complains of unfairness in the conduct of the Dutch chemists, who contended that the tubes employed by him were permeable to the air, and that the gas proceeded from the atmosphere. Van Mons defends them with zeal, and seemingly with success. This commentary is continued in the two subsequent volumes.

‘Analysis of the Mellite, or Honey-Stone, by M. Vauquelin.’ This mineral contains alumine and flint; but its acid is singular, for it greatly resembles the oxalic. The author, however, candidly confesses his doubts, from some subsequent experiments. There was certainly a large proportion of carbonic acid and a very small one of carbone: it is not however the oxalic acid, but apparently a new one.

‘Extract of a Letter from Professor Wurzer to Van Mons.’ This relates to the supposed new alkali, the *pneum*, whose existence is very doubtful, and indeed generally disbelieved; for the supposed *pneum* is found to be refined borax.



‘Experiments on the Urine, by D. Louis Proust; translated from the Spanish. (*Annales de Historia Naturale*; March 1800, N<sup>o</sup> 3, p. 275.)’ This author endeavours to prove the existence of sulphur, carbonic acid, ammonia, carbonate of lime, the brick-coloured sediment, the acetous acid, and a resinous substance, in urine. In many of these points he is superseded by prior publications, though he contends for the priority of the discovery. On the subject of the brick-coloured sediment we perceive some new remarks. The resin, as he calls it, has been described by Fourcroy; and we greatly mistake if his method of separating what he calls bile from the blood is not the same as that published many years since by an able chemist of Dublin, Mr. W. Higgins.

‘Geogonic and Chemical Reflexions on Volcanoes,’ by J. J. Virey, of Val de Grace. This author gives a general, but a superficial account of volcanoes, and the causes of their eruptions. He perceives the agency of water, but not its extent, nor the consequences of its decomposition. On the whole, this is an elegant little essay; but we observe one ludicrous error in a quotation from the English. He quotes an ironical observation from the Bathos as the real design of sir Richard Blackmore.

‘Berthollet’s Inquiry into the Laws of Affinity’ has been already published in English; and of Fourcroy’s new chemical work we have given a sufficiently ample account. This is continued through several succeeding numbers.

The thirty-seventh volume contains a conclusion of Chaptal’s treatise on Wines, which we must again hope will appear in a separate publication, as a proper supplement to the dry pedantic discussion of Baccius, and the more splendid but superficial account of Dr. Barry.

‘An Examination of the Experiments of M. Prevost, of Geneva, on the expansile Force of Odoriferous Emanations; and of Venturi, of Modena, on the Motions of Camphor on Water: by M. Carradori di Prato.’ The article before us we cannot accurately understand, as that in which the author published his own system is not before us. The account he himself gives of it we shall translate.

‘I have proved (*Annali di Chimica, &c. di Brugnatelli*, vol. V.; et *opusculi scelti di Milano*, vol. XX.) that all fixed and volatile oils, as well as resins, and the volatile concrete oils, like camphor, move on water by the affinity which every oil, either fixed or volatile, has to the surface of the water, by which it is attracted, and constrained to extend over it, till the respective attractions of a determined surface are entirely saturated with it; and that there are oils and oily substances which have more affinity than others with this liquid.’

The author afterwards explains this doctrine by the distinction, that oils have much adhesion or attraction of surface with water, but no affinity of aggregation or union. He argues also with great force against the system of Prevost, that the motions are owing to the effluvia. We are not willing wholly to agree with M. Carradori in his doctrine, which, however, we suspect that we do not fully comprehend; but are equally inclined to oppose that of Prevost, since we find a polished needle, by a similar repulsion, swim on water, though specifically heavier. There is seemingly a peculiar state of the surface of each which produces the different effects.

‘On the Combinations of Metals with Sulphur, by M. Vauquelin.’ In this article the author speaks of the action of acids on metallic sulphurs, of the sulphuric acid, and of the sulphur of lead. In general it appears that sulphur has greater affinity with metals than with their oxyds; and this affinity usually diminishes with the proportion of oxygen which they absorb. In some instances they unite only with sulphur in their perfect state of metal. Thus, if we triturate some of the oxyds of lead with sulphur, a portion of the latter inflames, and the metal is reduced. Mercury, in a metallic state, does not intimately combine with sulphur, and the æthiops mineral is rather a mixture than a combination; but when intimately united with sulphur, as in the cinnabar, the separation is peculiarly difficult. This however appears to be the abstract of a larger work; for there is a want of accuracy, rarely observed in this author’s publications. In the æthiops mineral, for instance, there must be a real combination, since both the mercury and the sulphur lose their appropriate effects; and, in the cinnabar, it is by no means clear in what state he supposes the metal to be.

‘An Essay on a new Electrometer, by M. Cadet.’ A short and judicious account of the different electrometers is prefixed to the description of that recommended by the author. His object was to construct an electrometer equally applicable to conductors feebly electrified, and to great masses of the fluid accumulated in batteries, without allowing for any friction or any weight; to ascertain a fixed measure of the charge, which may be preserved after the operation, and which shows at all times the nature and the quantity of the electricity. These objects the instrument here described seems completely to fulfil; and the author obviates, very satisfactorily, some important objections which may be made to it.

Some miscellaneous communications, which we have anticipated in the present article, follow; and we need only notice the account of the crysolite, an aluminous fluat, which MM. Klaproth and Vauquelin have found to contain soda. We have little doubt, as we have formerly hinted, that soda is among the primitive substances.



Professor Wurzer, in a letter to Van Mons, mentions a singular phenomenon of detonation. To a solution of sulphat, of muriat, and acetite of soda, he accidentally added a crystal of nitrat of silver; a smart but slight detonation followed. He adds, that the 'salt'—we suppose the *metallic* salt—had been made three years before, and, during that time, had been exposed to the sun; which reminded us of the observation in a late collection of essays, of the phenomenon of the *argentum fulminans* having been occasioned by its previous exposure to light, in support of the idea of detonation arising from the mutual repulsion of heat and light.

M. Badolier's new method of preparing the Acetic Acid at one quarter of the usual expense, consists in distilling, with a gentle heat in a sand bath, with glass retort, &c. equal parts of sulphat of copper and acetite of lead. The acid is perfectly pure.

Abstract of a Treatise on Vinegars, by M. Parmentier. The title to this article seems to require explanation. In reality, the treatise of which the account is here given occurs in the 'Complete Course of Agriculture,' and is a very proper appendix to the Treatise on Wine by M. Chaptal. The manufacture of vinegar requires an increase of temperature, with a free exposure to the atmospheric air. Some additions, that act as a ferment, are also requisite, which in this country the stalks of raisins often supply; and a certain proportion of alcohol is equally necessary to avoid mouldiness and putrefaction. The author next describes the different management for different sorts of vinegar, and particularly mentions that from cider, perry, beer, and the bran of wheat. He next enumerates the vegetable acids substituted for vinegar, particularly those of gooseberries, barberries, &c. The means of preserving vinegar are next noticed. By evaporating the water, the flavour is lost; and, even when concentrated by frost, the acid acquires a disagreeable smell and taste, which the author calls, somewhat improperly, *emphyreumatic*. Sea-salt added will often for a time succeed. The adulterations of vinegar, and its imperfect states, are next adverted to; but on this point we find nothing which merits our notice. A very slight knowledge of chemistry will supply all that the author suggests.

'New Experiments on the Galvanic Fluid, by Robertson, read to the National Institute.' This article is of no great importance. The author thinks the Galvanic power to be very different from electrical, and that the influence is that of an acid.

'Analysis of the white silvery Chlorite, by M. Vauquelin.' This species of chlorite is soft to the touch, formed of little brilliant scales, and possessed of the smell of clay when moistened. Its substance is however chiefly siliceous, with about 0.018 of

alumine. It differs however from the green chlorite, crystallised in prisms, by containing a little pot-ash; while the latter contains magnesia, which the white does not furnish in the smallest quantity. Our author therefore would separate the green and white kinds; but we should have considered his determination as too rigorously chemical, did not its more obvious properties, the form of its crystals, coincide in the same result.

‘Experiments relative to the Action of Sulphurated Hydrogen on Iron, by which it is said to form the Muriatic Acid, by M. Vauquelin.’ Our author, in repeating the experiment, found no muriatic acid; and he suspects the ingredients to have been impure when the acid was observed. It appears, from the experiments of Berthollet, that iron, recently filed, shows no traces of this acid; but, after a slight exposure to the air, it may be discovered. This will not be surprising to those who, with Margraaf and others, have found this acid in condensed dew and frost. In this experiment, much hydrogenous gas was emitted, which could not, in M. Vauquelin’s opinion, arise from the sulphurated hydrogen; since, to combine with the sulphur, the metal must be previously oxygenated. He supposes therefore that it decomposes a part of the water, attracting first its oxygen, and then the sulphur; increasing, by both operations, the quantity of hydrogenous gas emitted.

M. Achard found that seeds germinated much sooner, and animals lived longer, in condensed air. When the air was condensed three-fold, animals lived five times longer. When suddenly condensed, they sunk with all the appearances of compression on the brain. Birds let loose from condensed air seemed to experience no inconvenience from the comparative rarity of common air.

‘A Memoir on different Kinds of Mortars, on poor Lime, on Tarras, and on Puozzolane, by M. Guyton.’ This author describes the composition of different kinds of mortars invented or recommended by chemical writers, and then speaks of poor lime, which is so called, from its not producing a mortar equally rich with that procured from the other kinds. Its useful property is however that of hardening in water, which it owes to a portion of manganese. It contains also a small portion of clay; and M. Guyton thinks that it may be prepared artificially, by adding to ninety parts of good powdered limestone, four of clay, and six of manganese. The methods of making tarras are next noticed; and puozzolane may be supplied, in the author’s opinion, by basalt heated to a red heat, then thrown into water, and sifted when dried. M. Monge visited the remains of Cæsarea (Cæsarea Stratonis), and could distinguish the different ages of the buildings by the solidity of the mortars. In one part there were beautiful ornaments *en*



*creux*, formed by what had been executed in relief in stone. The latter was decayed, but the mortar continued unchanged.

‘Memoir of M. Pontier on the Manufacture of Saccharum Saturni, read at the Session of the Mines: abridged by M. Vauquelin.’ For many years the acetite of lead was supplied by Holland, and the preparation kept secret. It has been long made in France, and the process is in general known: M. Pontier describes it with care, and has added some important improvements. The chemical reasoning is deferred to another memoir; and a minute process cannot be abridged.

‘Experiments and Observations on some Philosophical and Chemical Phænomena which the Electrical (the Galvanic) Apparatus of Volta presents, by M. Desormes.’ The article before us contains chiefly experiments which we cannot curtail; but it also contains some observations, of which we shall offer a short abstract. The principle of Galvanism appears from these experiments—and this indeed has been often remarked before—to consist in the oxydation of the metal; and the electricity on the oxydated side is positive. It does not arise, in M. Desormes’ opinion, from the decomposition of the water; and the force of the apparatus has little influence on the oxydation beyond a certain point. But the electricity (for thus he styles the Galvanic fluid), though not produced by the decomposition of the water, will afterwards, by its own power, effect this change. The author next notices the order of the metals and the fluids which will produce the greatest effect; and points out some well-known phænomena, which we need not stay to describe. He repeats the English experiments on the proportion of the airs, and the formation of acid and alkali on the oxydating or hydrogenating sides. In illustration of this fact, the author notices a remark of Vauquelin, who, on triturating rock crystal in an agate mortar with syrup of violets, found the syrup assume a green colour. The author, on farther inquiry, found that, when the same substances were rubbed together, that which was bruised and had its polish destroyed exhibited an electricity contrary to its natural inclination. As that of rock crystal is positive, the electricity which rendered the syrup green must be negative. We remember Dr. Cullen making a similar observation thirty years since, when speaking of the preparation of the unguentum mercuriale. He attributed the calcination of the metal to the electricity excited by the friction, which, (he added) in many cases, appears to perform the office of an acid. We mention it as a proof of singular sagacity; nor was it the only one. Some remarks on the oxydation and reduction of metals by the electric fluid, follow. The augmentation of the pile appears to have no effect in increasing the oxydation.

‘Reflexions on some Passages in ancient Authors, by M.

Pissis.' This is an excellent little paper, and draws the balance between Mayow and his contemporaries with great judgement. The author shows that Mayow *was*, as we have already observed, noticed by them, particularly by Hales and Baglivi; but the preponderance of Hales's credit obscured that of Mayow; and Baglivi's theory of the loss of elasticity was considered as a more satisfactory theory than the loss of the nitrous aerial spirit. The connexion of the loss of elasticity with the loss of caloric, though not known to Hales, was hinted at by Seneca, who however cannot pretend, as some hasty undistinguishing inquirers have supposed with respect to Mayow, to have anticipated every modern discovery.

ART. IV.—*Mémoires de l'Institut National des Sciences et des Arts.*  
*Memoirs of the National Institute of Sciences and Arts. (Continued*  
*from Vol. XXXIII. p. 486.)*

OUR last article commenced with the second volume of the class of Moral and Political Sciences; and we advanced to Memoir VI. inclusively. We now continue our analysis, which will include the remainder of the volume.

'VII. On the State of the French Marine at the Beginning of the Fourteenth Century, and on the Kind of Tactics at that Time employed in Sea-Fights. By M. Legrand d'Aussy.'

This memoir is altogether drawn from a poem, or rather a history in rhyme, of an engagement in the year 1304 on the Zealand coast, between Guy de Namur, count of Flanders, who had usurped great part of the territory of Jean d'Avènes, count of Holland and Hainaut, and the French fleet, under the command of Renier Grimaud (Grimaldi) a Genoese captain, or rather corsair, of great courage and reputation, who was enticed into the service of the French marine by Philip the Fair, at that time engaged in a war against Flanders, and consequently a close and powerful ally of the count of Holland. The period of the battle comprises about sixteen hours, and extends through an entire night. In the ensuing morning, the combatants manifest a double degree of vigour; and, in the issue, Guy de Namur is taken prisoner amidst a prodigious slaughter of his own forces; and the victory of course is amply decided in favour of Grimaldi. This historical poem was written by Guillaume Guiart, a native of Orléans, and was fantastically entitled *Branche aux Roiaux Lignages*. Its versification is totally destitute of merit; but its descriptions appear to be accurate; and the only use which is made of it in the present instance, is to convey some idea of the naval tactics of the century referred to. Prior to the æra of Francis I. the French



had no established marine whatever, nor even conceived the necessity of such an establishment. As the forests of Germany were infested with vast bodies of banditti, the seas were in like manner infested with vagrant fleets of corsairs, several of which frequently united themselves under the command of one intrepid and celebrated chief; and their services were to be hired by any power who meditated a descent on a neighbouring territory, or who in any other way stood in need of naval assistance. The present French and Flemish fleets were, for the most part, composed of such detached and independent squadrons; and in their attack and defence they retained much of the old Roman mode of combating. Vessels of every description, large and small, ships, galleys, boats, were all brought into action at one time: the larger were laced together for mutual support, and to prevent the possibility of their separation. They were lined on the decks with a promiscuous crowd of archers, slingers, and swordsmen; while strong and gradually diminishing stages or platforms surrounded the masts at different heights, loaded with slingers and bowmen alone: and for the defence both of the deck and platforms, or turrets, as they might more properly be called, a breast-work was thrown around of a kind of sail-cloth, which obviously afforded protection rather by concealment than resistance. Every ship thus manned resembled an oriental pagoda; and, in some instances, the turrets constructed around the masts were so lofty as to give the body of troops there situated a full command of the walls about to be assaulted, and an opportunity of employing their catapults against the interior of the fort or city. This mode of assault was by no means unknown to the ancient Romans. It was adopted, as most of our readers will recollect, on a wonderfully extensive scale, by Marcellus, during the siege of Syracuse; at which time nothing but the superior skill of Archimedes preserved the city from the destruction that was menaced. We do not find, however,—and it is almost the only deviation we have observed from the instruments introduced into the Roman marine,—any notice taken of the *corvus Duillii*, or machine invented by the consul of that name, for the purpose of boarding; of which we have given a brief account in our review of M. Le Roi's Memoir \*, respecting the advantages to be derived from the re-adoption of that instrument, as well as of several other facts and circumstances common to the naval establishment of that celebrated republic. We may naturally therefore conclude, that, notwithstanding the praises lavished upon it by several historians, it was found too cumbersome and inconvenient for general utility, and was, in consequence, gradually relinquished.

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\* See our 3<sup>d</sup> volume, p. 497.

The greater part of this memoir consists of remarks upon the descriptions of the poet by the writer of the article; but they contain nothing either new or extraordinary, and but very little indeed which has not heretofore been advanced both by Froissart and the author of the *Histoire générale de la Marine*, and especially by De Vitri, in his *Historia Orientalis*.

‘VIII. On the Origin of Law, its Definition, its different Kinds, and the Language which appertains to it. By M. Baudin (des Ardennes).’

‘One common will, founded upon a reciprocity of interests, binds every member of each political society mutually to promise and demand protection against violence; and this protection,’ says M. Baudin, ‘is *the law*,—anterior, at least in idea, to every authority which is charged with its execution :

“Jura magistratusque legunt, sanctumque senatum.”

In this verse of Virgil, continues he, we perceive the natural order by which the formation of the law precedes the choice of those who are to apply it; and these two operations successively emanate from the same source. It presents to us an infant colony, proceeding, in its collective capacity, first of all to discover what laws are best adapted to its well-being, and afterwards what men it shall invest with the possession of public powers.’

This is the common mode of speculating, and ought unquestionably to be the common mode of practice. But if we refer to historical facts, we shall not find that this sort of social compact, which so fascinates us in the pages of Plato and Rousseau, has any degree of universal application. The origin of almost every nation is immersed in such inscrutable obscurity, that we can seldom acquire any certainty of information. That of the Romans is perhaps as well known to us as any. But when Romulus called to his vagrant standard the different hordes of banditti that infested the country around him, marshaled them into some degree of order, and promulged his laws for their obedience, we find but little of that general collection of the public will, so perpetually referred to by the present writer, and those of the same school. It is obvious that Romulus was endowed with talents far superior to any of his comrades. The axiom of the immortal Bacon, that *knowledge is power*, will stand as long as the world endures; and it was by the possession of this intrinsic power alone, and not by the consent of the brigandine hordes who flocked to his banners, that he seated himself in the possession of the supreme authority. Could we trace the origin of the first associations of mankind in different quarters of the earth, we should probably be able to resolve most of them into similar facts; we should see little or nothing of mickle-gemotes or wittena-gemotes of



the popular will, expressed either individually or representatively ; but should trace the first cause of association to the superior craft or wisdom of some individual, who united his fellow barbarians into one class for the purpose of private ambition, or perhaps of private revenge.

M. Baudin considers the science of the law under the various branches of criminal, civil, military, fiscal, and political, strictly so called, or that which regulates the interior police of a state. Many of his observations under the fourth of these divisions, the fiscal or financial, are entitled to much attention, and especially those which relate to the principle of levying taxes. We agree with him also in another point, as to the advantage which would necessarily result from a uniformity of legislation, and the application of the same laws to every part of the most extensive empire. But, while we concede the principle, we are compelled to assert its inadmissibility in a variety of cases : and we need only instance, as an example, the immense possessions of the British East-India company. Something of the principle here contended for was at one time attempted in their Asiatic dominions, by the universal introduction and application of English legislation ; but so widely different are the political views, the national prejudices, practices, and religions, of the natives in the different provinces, that the attempt was soon and wisely relinquished ; and a new system of law, founded upon principles appealed to by all, or admitting the operation of local prejudices and customs, the common law of the cast or province, was introduced in its stead.

On the subject of legal language, our author affords us some very happy and judicious remarks ; and we trust his countrymen will profit by them in their present infantine institutions. The redundancy and periphrasis which we are perpetually meeting with at home—the absurd use of obsolete terms, the meaning of which has been long totally unknown to the people, and is scarcely recognised by the profession itself—those barbarisms and obscurities which run through every page, and, instead of adjusting, lay the foundation for additional disputes—are a disgrace to the age in which we live. A lawyer, observes M. Baudin, in preparing his brief, ought to be as cautious in the selection of his terms as Boileau was accustomed to be in that of his rhymes. Doubt would then be discarded, and one word would often answer the purpose of a dozen.

‘ IX. On ancient National Sepultures, and the external Ornaments which at different Times have been employed ; on Embalmings ; on the Tombs of the French Kings in the heretofore-named Church of St. Germain ; and on a Project of Interment for the Departments. By M. Legrand d’Aussy.’

This is a voluminous memoir, occupying not less than 270 quarto pages. Our author opens the bowels of the earth with

all the hardihood of a mineralogist, and often affords us more entertainment. The title divides this bulky communication into three parts. Of these the first, relating to ancient national sepultures, is subdivided into five chapters—1. On sepultures common to the ancient nations of Europe and Asia. 2. On such as were in use among the Gauls, and the barbarous hordes who invaded Gaul. 3. We have in this chapter the different modes of sepulture common to the Gauls, divided into six different epochs. Of these, the first mounts up to a period of very early antiquity, and even of savage life; prior indeed, in our author's opinion, to the invention of tools for excavating the earth, when, merely in consequence of such want of conveniences, the dead body was uniformly burnt, and the ashes covered over with unhewn stones. To this æra, wishing, like the Scandinavian historians, to designate it by some peculiar appellation, M. d'Aussy, somewhat whimsically, gives the name of *the primitive age of fire*. His second epoch he entitles *the age of hills*—alluding to the excavations made in their prominences for the reception, not of the body itself, but of the bones and ashes collected after it had been burnt, and deposited in an urn or other receptacle: consequently this second age implies some considerable acquaintance with mechanics and metallurgy. The third epoch comprises *sepulchral hills, without the use of burning*, which our author imagines to have had a very long duration, though he favours us in no instance with any thing like dates, or advances beyond conjecture. His fourth age is that of *funeral piles*. His fifth, of *sarcophagi*, or stone coffins interred in the bosom of the earth. His sixth the age of *mausolea*, including sepulchral monuments of the present day.

The fourth chapter is devoted to the subject of embalmings, which is again divided into three sections. Of these, the first relates to the *mummy of Auvergne*. The Auvergnois are well known to have been peculiarly happy in the art of embalming at a very early period, and infinitely to have excelled the Egyptian artists: for, while the latter, by withdrawing the brains and entrails, and shriveling the limbs, reduced the body to a mere skeleton, enveloped in a kind of adhesive cere-cloth, the former preserved every individual particle of the body in its just and natural symmetry, and presented, in the person of the embalmed, an image rather of sound and refreshing sleep, than of death and desolation of form. The preparation employed for this purpose, like many other ingenuities of the earlier ages, we are now totally ignorant of, notwithstanding our general pretensions to superior knowledge and information; nor has any fair and decisive example of the Auvergnian mummy reached the present day: whence it is but just, however, to conclude, that, though the artists of that country embalmed with greater elegance than those of Egypt, their preparations were less durable. The



proofs of the art, and of the success of the former, are at present only to be found in the pages of ancient writers who had been witnesses of their ingenuity. In the second section of this chapter our author treats of the embalmings of the middle and lower ages; in the course of which we meet with nothing that needs detain us. His third section is on the use of mummies in medicine; and refers to an absurd belief, which at one time passed current in the world, that the flesh of an Egyptian mummy was an excellent specific in cases of contusion, and even of mortal wounds. In consequence of this vulgar prejudice, mummies became an object of great traffic; and more were disposed of in every year than perhaps all Egypt was in possession of. False mummies were manufactured; many of them in Egypt itself, but many also in France and the adjoining kingdoms—immense numbers of bodies being stolen, according to the testimony of Ambrose Paré, in the night-time, either from gibbets or church-yards; and, when duly manufactured, offered to sale, and occasionally at the low price of about two guineas and a half, as importations of Portuguese merchants, purchased by these latter in the province of Lower Egypt.

The fifth chapter relates to the external ornaments of tombs employed at different ages. These, in two distinct sections, are divided into as many classes, viz. Roman and national tombs: the latter referring to those of the Gauls, or such barbarous tribes as the Franks, Visigoths, and Burgundians, who, having forcibly taken possession of the country, became an integral part of the people; the former being confined to those which are strictly Roman, bearing the Roman form and character, and usually accompanied with Latin inscriptions. To these are added two other sections, appropriated to what our author denominates by two terms now for the first time admitted from the provincial dialects into the standard language of the country—*lécavènes* and *dolmines*: meaning by the former the rude mode, once in use, of designating the place of interment by two unhewn and parallel stones raised in an upright direction over the body of the deceased, accompanied, in some instances, with a third, which was thrown across and lodged upon the other two; and which, he seems to conceive, gave the first idea of sepulchral colonnades, and other decorations of a similar class: while by the latter our author designates that simple monument which consists of two flat lateral stones with a third laid upon them, elevated hereby a little above the surface of the earth, and containing the name and age of the deceased. This latter may have been the common origin of the greater number of sepulchral elevations now to be met with in the country church-yards of Great-Britain: but M. d'Aussy is unquestionably mistaken in attributing the *chorea gigantum*, or the immense and massy relics at Stonehenge, to the class of *lécavènes*, or of any other

sepulchral order whatever. We have already had occasion, in our review of Mr. King's *Munimenta Antiqua*, as well as in several other articles, to assert, without fear of contradiction, that these astonishing relics, instead of being funeral monuments, are unquestionably the remains of an ancient seat of judicature. The same subject is continued through two other sections. The seventh considers the origin of rude earthen tumuli or cromlechs among different and uncultivated nations. The eighth is on the construction of different kinds of tombs not included in the foregoing divisions, on chapels and epitaphs. The ninth and tenth branch out into the consideration of mausolea and their different ornaments.

The second and third part of this extensive memoir form merely a kind of short appendix to the first, and are devoted to the two subjects enumerated in the remainder of its title.

‘X. Report made in the Name of a Commission composed of MM. Laplace, Fourcroy, Cels, Naigeon, Fleurieu, Baudin, Camus, Mongez, and Vincent, charged by the National Institute to examine in what Manner, on the Decease of its Members, it ought to pay them its last Respect. By M. Baudin (des Ardennes.)’

This is a short memoir, and concludes with the following plan, which was adopted by the Institute on its proposal. 1. The members of the National Institute shall assist at the funerals of their brethren. 2. Every member of the Institute shall wear, during the ceremony, a piece of black crape round his left arm. 3. The members of the Institute who compose the committee of the class of the deceased, or who are his particular friends, or his near neighbours, are requested, as soon as possible, to make themselves acquainted with the day and the hour of the funeral, and to communicate such information to the secretary. 4. The commission of the treasury is to charge itself with the necessary expenses, and to circulate the necessary intelligence, as soon as it has reached the secretary, to every member of the Institute, by expresses for the purpose. 5. When the time of interment interferes with that of a sitting, whether general, or particular, the sitting is postponed to the next open day. This disposition does not apply to public sittings. 6. In the public sitting in which the notice relative to deceased members shall be pronounced, their family shall be allotted a peculiar situation. The president of the sitting shall take care that it be pre-occupied by the family; and the commission of the treasury shall conduct them into it.

‘XI. Second Report, made in the Name of the Commission enumerated in Memoir X. on the present State of the Burial-Grounds in the Commune of Paris.’

Many of the burial-grounds in Paris and its environs are far too small for the object to which they are destined; and, in consequence, the deceased are often crowded upon each other in the



most indecent manner ; while many of their coffins are scarcely covered from the public view, and the most noisome and pestilential effluvium is perpetually escaping and impregnating the atmosphere with its morbid gas. With the evil of such a practice the members of the National Institute became deeply impressed when attending the funeral of M. Dewailly, one of their brethren—on the official notice or *éloge* of whom we have observed in our last Appendix—who was interred in a burial-ground of this description, a little beyond the precincts of Clichy. The commission who now make their report were charged with an examination into the subject, in consequence of the inadequacy of the spot, and the culpable negligence of those to whom it was intrusted. The report is made in the memoir before us ; and several remedies are proposed, which cannot fail of being advantageous. These were all approved by the Institute, and ordered to be sent to the executive directory, constituting at that time the chief magistracy of the republic.

With this memoir the second volume of the class of Moral and Political Sciences terminates ; and we now therefore return to present our readers with a continuation of the second volume of the department of Literature and Polite Arts.

‘ IV. Memoir on the Pelasgi. By M. Dupuis.’

The Pelasgians were one of the boldest and most considerable tribes who at a very early period made an irruption into Greece, and wrested a great part of it from the hands of the aborigines, who retired before them. They were a very migratory race, of highly doubtful origin ; fond of bestowing their name on every district or country of which they took possession. Hence Thessaly, Arcadia, and the island of Rhodes, were each of them denominated Pelasgia ; and Samos and Antandros were both entitled Pelasgian. We trace them from the southern parts of Greece, as far north as that part of Scythia which is bounded by the Euxine, and at present inhabited by a Tartar race. We have already had occasion to express ourselves so fully upon this wandering and ingenious people, in our review of Mr. Allwood’s *Literary Antiquities of Greece* \*, that we here take our leave of M. Dupuis for the present ; more especially as we shall have occasion to return to him when we come to notice his hypothesis of their source and origin in a subsequent memoir inserted in the ensuing volume.

‘ V. Memoir on the Mœris. By M. Le Roy.’

Our author rejects the term *lake*, which generally precedes that of Mœris, in the present title ; because, in his opinion, it tends to convey a false idea concerning it. The Mœris is, properly speaking, a vast canal cut from the lake Kern, which

\* See pp. 11, and 131, of this volume.

comprises a part of what is now commonly understood by the Mœris, and runs into the Nile in the direction of north to south: yet, as the whole of this prodigious sheet of water has for ages been possessed of one integral name, and the canal itself, if we credit the statement of Herodotus and Diodorus, originally possessed not less than 3,600 stadia in circumference, we do not see so great an inaccuracy in applying the term *lake* to the entire length of the Mœris as is apprehended by M. le Roy; more especially as the term *canal* is more appropriately, and by way of distinction, applied to the channel which forms its south-easterly termination, and by which it empties itself into the Nile; or conversely, in other seasons, derives a due degree of supply from it. The magnitude and direction of the Mœris has been very differently stated by different Greek historians; and even modern writers and travelers—so considerably have its appearance and character been changed for many ages—have been as little capable of agreeing upon the subject. It is sufficient for us to observe, that our present chartist follows, upon the whole, the steps of Strabo and Ptolemy, among the ancients; and of d'Anville, in opposition to Gibert and Savary, among later writers; and illustrates his scheme by a well-engraved plate. We may shortly, however, expect, from the joint labours of several of our own officers, now just returned from this interesting country, a more accurate account, both of the Mœris and the Bubastis, than any we have hitherto been in possession of.

‘ VI. On Murrine Vases, by M. Mongez.’

Much doubt has subsisted in the minds of the best mineralogists, as to the substance denominated *murrinum*, whence were produced the beautiful goblets so highly esteemed during the seventh, eighth, and ninth centuries of the Roman æra. It is stated by Pliny that these vases were procured from the east, from countries little known, especially from Parthia and Carmania. It was supposed to be a crystallised fluid, shining rather than glittering—*splendor sine viribus, nitorque verius quam splendor*: its chief value consisted in the variety of its colours, consisting of a number of spots perpetually changing from purple into white, or a flaming hue composed of both these, which suddenly shifted again into purple or red combined with milky white. Some gave the preference to the intensity of colours they exhibited, and the steady reflexion of their hues, as in a rainbow: others were best pleased with the breadth of the coloured spot. To be translucent was esteemed a defect; while it added considerably to their estimation to be possessed of perfume. M. Mongez examines at large several of the siliceous earths which seem nearest to approximate to this and other accounts of the Roman naturalist, particularly the opal, girasol, and chalcedony; and he at last fixes on that species of the latter



which mineralogists have denominated *cacholong*. Guibert has long ago referred it to the onyx-chalcedony; but the former appears, in the main, best to correspond with the characteristic marks of the murrinum. Yet, after all, the odor of the murrinum is in no respect to be traced either in the *cacholong*, or indeed in any of the siliceous earths with which we are acquainted in the present day; and we are still therefore involved in as much doubt as ever. It is cutting the knot, to assert with M. Mongez, that this was an adventitious quality communicated to it occasionally by perfumes with which it happened accidentally to be packed up, or from some other independent and extrinsic cause. We can scarcely imagine that the Romans could have been thus universally imposed upon; and especially in a point which appears to have been of so much consequence in their judgement as to have constituted the very name of the utensil itself. Either, therefore, the murrinum was manufactured from an earth we are now unacquainted with, or the oriental artist must have been possessed of a mode of super-adding to it a permanent perfume, of which we can form no rational conjecture.

‘VII. Part of the Sixteenth Book of the Iliad translated into French Verse, by M. Villar.’

The version here presented consists of about two hundred lines, comprising the address of Patroclus to Achilles upon the subject of his absenting himself from the Grecian armament, the advance of Hector with his triumphant Trojans to the Grecian fleet, their firing it in the sight of Achilles, and his instant consent that Patroclus should lead forward his inactive troops to repel the assault. The translation is smooth and accurate, more compressed than the generality of versions in the French language, but not possessed of any peculiar merit, nor pre-eminently entitled to the notice here taken of it by the National Institute.

‘VIII. Report concerning several Vases found in a Tomb near Geneva, an Engraving of which was sent to the Institute by the Genevese Society for the Encouragement of Sciences and Arts. By MM. Vien and Le Blond.’

Instead of any particular account, or any probable conjectures concerning the vessels here referred to, this paper is entirely occupied with vague details concerning ancient sepultures, the doctrine of a separate state of existence, and the preparations frequently made by the relatives of the deceased for the support of the soul when severed from the body, by placing in the tomb, along with the urn containing the bones and ashes, where burning was employed, other vessels loaded with foods and wines. The vases here referred to are unquestionably however of this description. The village in which the tomb was discovered is Annimasso; but our reporters drop the immediate subject consigned to their attention as soon as they enter upon it. Their

competency for the undertaking may in some measure be decided from the following learned and correct remark.

‘ It remains yet to be determined, whether, if the body were placed in this position, it would be a posture chosen to enable it to look towards the east on its resurrection; for such is the position affected in their funerals by those ancient nations who worshipped the sun; such was also that adopted by the Christians, *who were only a sect of the religion of Mithra*, in which the sun was the object of divine adoration.’

But the times are changed: and our profound antiquaries have, no doubt, before this time joined in the splendid train of the great consul, and been themselves admitted into this sect of the Mithraic mythology.

‘ IX. On the Work entitled *Περὶ θαυμασιῶν ἀκροματων*, (*De mirabilibus Auscultationibus*), printed among the writings of Aristotle. By M. Camus.’

The critics and commentators upon Aristotle have differed in opinion concerning the author of this collection of extraordinary facts, as well as upon the title itself, which it ought to sustain. Casaubon denominates it *ἀκροματα θαυμασια*. P. Victorius, as cited by Fabricius, asserts that in one codex he had seen it named *Παραδοξων*. The more common mode of entitling it, however, is that adopted by our author; which is variously rendered by the different Latin interpreters—*De mirabilibus Auscultationibus*, *De miraculis Auditis*, and *De admirandis Narrationibus*. As to the various opinions concerning the writer of this work, M. Camus arranges the authors of them in four classes:—1. Those who affirm that it was written by Aristotle, and that he composed it with the same views as his *History of Animals*. 2. Those who deny that Aristotle ever composed it, or at least the philosopher of that name who was the tutor of Alexander the Great. 3 and 4. Those who regard it as a production of the Stagirite, but not an express treatise written upon the subject to which it pretends: the former of these asserting, that it contains a mere isolated collection of facts and anecdotes, collected partly by Aristotle himself, and partly by his assistants; and the latter, that it is a mere compilation from other works of that philosopher, by some unknown and later hand. The opinion of M. Camus is in complete consonance with the third of these classes of critics, with the exception alone that this collection of extraordinary recitals has been considerably augmented by writers posterior to the age of the original author. To this opinion are appended several remarks upon the work itself—generally explanatory, and often ingenious.

‘ X. On Types constructed for Moneys, compared with those for Medals. By M. Mongez.’

The composition and the choice of types for moneys does



not entirely depend upon taste and inclination; it is subordinate to a knowledge of the art of minting. Medals are frequently struck with not less than twelve or fifteen successive blows of the balance, and during this time, are often exposed to the fire till they acquire a red heat, that they may assume the impression more readily and correctly. Economy, however, and the necessity of a large coinage, render a different proceeding indispensable in the minting of moneys. To attain both these objects, it is requisite to employ great expedition, and to make use of not more than a single stroke of the balance or graver. The types employed must therefore be of very different materials; and we cannot be surprised at finding many of the ancient medals, in the construction of which a vast portion of time and labour was expended, finished in a much more perfect style than the common coins of the present day. If the medal appeared imperfect, it might be struck over a second, or even a third time, with a trifling loss of value; for it was generally composed of bronze: but it is obvious that, in the case of minting, and in the higher coins particularly, this can never be attempted—the artist being limited to the most scrupulous weight, and encountering moreover a loss of metal by a repetition of the impression, which would soon terminate in his ruin.

‘XI. Ode of a philanthropic Republican against Monarchy.  
By M. le Brun.’

We cannot trace the philanthropy of M. le Brun in these verses; but he is at least resolved that this hatred of monarchy shall not be so questionable. *Exempli gratiâ:*

‘O nation! ne cède plus tes droits:  
Tout monarque est tyran, tout despote est parjure.  
Rien ne détruit l’indomptable nature;  
Et l’on ne peut changer les tigres ni les rois.’

O, with your rights, no more ye people part:  
All kings are rods, all despots false at heart.  
One firm, unconquered plan is nature’s will;  
Kings must be kings, and tigers tigers still.

‘XII. Ode of a philanthropic Republican against Anarchy.  
By M. le Brun.’

Our poet seems to dislike anarchists rather more than kings, violent as his aversion is to the latter; and, if we may judge from the increased degree of spirit manifested in the present ode, he has been a greater sufferer since the revolution than before it.

‘XIII. Observations on the two first Books of the Politics of Aristotle. By M. Bitaubé.’

These observations are divided into three distinct memoirs. The first offers us an analysis of the principles of Aristotle upon

the elements of civil society. The second contains an analysis of his principles upon community and the equality of property. The third examines the opinions of different philosophers and other celebrated writers of antiquity upon the ancient republics. We cannot follow our author with any sort of detail through the whole of this extensive paper, occupying not less than 128 pages. It is sufficient to observe, that M. Bitaubé has studied his subject with a very creditable application; and has introduced a variety of remarks, many of which, if carried into practice, will assuredly prove advantageous to the welfare of his country. The whole paper is obviously designed for the meridian of the French republic, and the present epoch of its constitution.

‘XIV. On Gladiators, and two antique Statues known by the Name of Gladiators. By M. Mongez.’

Of these statues, the first is the gladiator of the Villa Borghese, dug up from the ruins of the ancient Antium, now Porto d’Anzio, during the pontificate of Paul V. which extended from 1605 to 1621. The second is generally denominated, from the anguish represented in the muscles of his countenance, the dying gladiator. It formerly embellished the gardens of the Villa Ludovisi; and an engraving of it was given to the world by Nerrier in 1638, under the denomination of *the dying Mirmillo*. These are both among the Italian spoils of Bonaparte, and decorate, at the present hour, the Museum of Paris. M. Mongez, in this memoir, follows closely the steps of the learned and, upon the whole, accurate Winkelman; and only differs from him in points in which he is completely supported by historical facts and characteristic sculptures or engravings. It is impossible that both these statues can be designed as representations of gladiators; for nothing can be more unlike than the one to the other. That of the Villa Borghese, is one of the most beautiful of antiquity; the hair is short, and elegantly curled over the head, according to the Greek costume; the face is without either beard, whiskers, or mustachios; every muscle preserves the most perfect tranquillity; and the general result gives us the idea rather of a god or deified hero than of a man. The countenance of the supposed gladiator of the Villa Ludovisi is, on the contrary, ferocious in the highest degree: every muscle is diagnostic of extreme pain; the upper lip is surmounted with a broad and savage mustachio; and the hair of the head much longer than in the former statue, and falling in disorderly curls over the ears and eye-brows. Winkelman, who admitted that the first might have been a gladiator, and had no objection to the name of *Bato*, by which it was commonly designated, denied that this last delineated the same profession, and rather believed it to have been the statue of a Grecian herald, and to have represented either Polyphontes, who was slain by *Ædipus*, together with his master *Laius*, king of Thebes; or *Copreas*, the herald



of Eurysthes, who was murdered by the Athenians. M. Mongez denies that they were either of them gladiators, or even heralds. The introduction of his memoir is intended to prove that the former were universally selected, both among the Greeks and Romans, from slaves, or the lowest and most despicable of the people; that they were at all times held in utter contempt; and that we have no proof whatever of the existence of a single sculpture in honour of any of them: and he concludes, without any individual appropriation of either of these statues, that the first represents an unknown Grecian hero or gymnastic, whose profession was as much honoured as that of the gladiator was vilified; and the second, a slave or barbarian in the act of dying. He has added three plates, illustrative of his subject and opinion.

‘XV. Ossian’s last Hymn. By M. Chenier.’

The character of M. Chenier as a poet is well known from his former productions; and it will not be impaired by the present effusion, which is in fluent but irregular verse; carefully manufactured, but deficient in sublimity and characteristic abruptness.

‘XVI. Project with respect to several Alterations by which Catalogues of Libraries may be rendered more durable (*plus constitutionnels*); with Observations on the Character, Qualities, and Functions of a true Librarian. By M. Ameilhon.’

We have formerly noticed a memoir on the same subject by M. Camus, inserted in the antecedent volume. The present was written and read to the Institute prior to M. Camus’s production, to which in reality it gave birth, and which in some measure was designed as an answer to it. This of M. Ameilhon was intended—and, in point of regularity, the intention should have been executed—to have preceded the other in the list of memoirs; but not having been sent to the Institute time enough for appearing in its proper place, the class to whom it was addressed consented to insert it where it now exists. The plan proposed contains many excellent regulations; and we entirely agree with our author, that the office of a public librarian should be highly honoured and respected, and that the care and protection of public libraries should only be confided to literati of the first degree of merit.

‘XVII. Man and his Conscience, a Dialogue. By M. Collin Harleville.’

This colloquy is a verse production, in which the passions, predominant inclinations, and actions of the man, are severely questioned by the vicegerent of his bosom. The advice given by the latter, whether relative to religion or morals, is altogether unexceptionable: the former engages to follow it; and they eventually part in perfect friendship.

‘XVIII. On the different Kinds of Spartium spoken of by the Ancients. By M. Ameilhon.’

Spartum or spartium, though now properly confined by botanists to the plant called Spanish-broom, was formerly extended to the genista, or common-broom of the heath. Prior to the use of flax and hemp, it was generally employed in the manufacture of ropes and cordage, whence *spartum* has been derived by many etymologists from *σπειρω*, or *σπεραιω*, to roll or wind round. M. Ameilhon dislikes the common derivation, and offers another in its stead. Originally, the Greeks denominated the genista or broom *σχοινος*, which, in consequence, became shortly afterwards a common term for a band or cord; as, from *juncus* in Latin, which is another name for the genista, was perhaps derived the term *jungo*, *jungere*, to tie or join together. He endeavours to prove that the spot most celebrated for the growth and manufacture of the *σχοινος*, or broom, was Sparta and its vicinity; and that this Spartan cordage, or *σχοινος*, was hence, in process of time, designated by the name of the place whence it was chiefly vended, as well as the plant of which it was manufactured; in like manner as we now denominate many of our hempen cloths Russias, and our linens Irishes. There is no end to etymologies; but the present may at least stand till a better take its place.

‘XIX. The Siren and the Voyager. By M. Selis.’

Another short colloquy in rhyme, which we have seen inserted in several of our own newspapers; for which it seems much better calculated, as a mere *jeu d’esprit*, than for its present position among grave and critical memoirs.

‘XX. Antiquities of the Town of Treves. By M. Peyre.’

Treves is one of the most ancient towns of Gaul; and it becomes more interesting still by the immense number of ancient monuments which it yet exhibits, by its vast extent, and its situation on the Moselle, a powerful river, which, after meandering through a valley embellished on either side with the most beautiful hillocks, unites its waters with those of the Rhine, at Coblenz, at the distance of about twenty leagues. Hither Constantine frequently resorted, as to an asylum from concerns of state; and in earlier periods still it was the Elysium of the Romans. At the present day, its numerous vestiges of antique monuments, its superb Gothic buildings, its magnificent palaces, its modern churches, enriched with invaluable paintings, and ornamented with marble pillars, the beauty of its streets, and the clear abundant waters that enliven them, its variety of public places, embellished with perpetual fountains, groupes of statues, and other sculptures in bronze and marble, cannot fail to afford infinite entertainment to the young traveler who occasionally makes it his residence. The principal object of M. Peyre, however, is to prove that the extensive range of ruins upon which one of the gates of the town as well as one of the churches are erected, was formerly a bathing-pa-



lace. If this be true, it must have been elevated upon a prodigious scale indeed—an observation, nevertheless, which by no means opposes the idea; for many of the warm baths of the ancients were constructed upon the most grand and luxurious plan imaginable. Those of Dioclesian, for example, if we may credit the testimony of Pietro Rossini, were so immense, that not less than three thousand two hundred persons were able to bathe at the same time without seeing each other. The author has subjoined seven plates, illustrative of his conjecture.

‘XXI. Ode. By M. Lebrun.’

With this paper the volume closes. M. Lebrun’s Ode is a paraphrase on the ‘*Exegi monumentum ære perennius*’ of Horace, in which he takes care to assure himself of at least as large a portion of immortality as the Roman bard. A note, supended to the first page of the poem, informs us that ‘this piece, as is obvious, is intended to terminate the volume of M. Lebrun’s Odes.’ This information is highly necessary; for, in its present position, we could not avoid thinking, as we began to read it, that it had a direct and entire reference to the present volume of the *Memoirs of the National Institute*: and it still seems to us to answer a kind of double purpose. As to the Odes of M. Lebrun himself, we know but little of them; yet the present will not save him from the perdition he seems so much to despise.

To the *Memoirs* is added an Appendix, comprising a notice of a book printed at Bamberg in 1462 by Albert Pfister, and contained in a volume presented to the National Library in the month of Pluviose, year 7. By M. Camus. The book here particularised is an imprinted missal in small folio, and in the German tongue. It consists of three parts: the first being a dialogue between Death and a person who has lost several beloved friends by his ravages—here entitled *Complaints against Death*, but by M. Heineche, who has also described the same book, an *Allegory on Death*. The second part comprehends the four histories; to wit, of Joseph, Daniel, Judith, and Esther. The third is a *Biblia Pauperum*, or Poor Man’s Bible; by which denomination is meant extracts from the Bible collected about the ninth century, for the use of those whose poverty prevented them from purchasing the Bible at large, or whose constant routine of labour from perusing it. M. Camus contends that the present is the only copy extant of this very early publication, and that it is the identical volume announced by M. Steiner, in Meusel’s Historical, Literary, and Bibliographical Magazine, printed at Chemnitz in 1792, to have been then just discovered. The chief use of the book, so far at least as it appears to us, is to prove that the art of printing was known at an æra somewhat earlier than that to which its invention is ordinarily attributed.

We have now finished our review of the second volume published by each of the three classes into which the National Institute is divided; and are in consequence enabled in some measure to appreciate the talents of its contributors, and the utility of their labours. Having already offered a few observations upon the papers afforded us by the Physical and Mathematical department, we shall here confine ourselves to the two classes whose memoirs are alone noticed in the present article: and the first extraordinary fact that strikes us, is the paucity of those who have contributed to the publication. Upon the average, every class consists of about one hundred members, each of whom ought to have contributed, in turn, something worthy of public inspection. The first volume, however, of the class of Moral and Political Sciences consists but of seventeen memoirs, and these the production of eleven members alone. This want of variety in the first volume we were ready to suppose originated from the actual state of France, and the infancy of the establishment itself; and we had no doubt that it would be amply compensated in the volume which was to succeed. Our readers will, however, be astonished to find, on a re-perusal of our analysis, that the second volume of the same class comprises not more than *twelve* memoirs, which are the joint production of only *five* contributors out of very nearly one hundred members, of whom this class consists. The class of Literature and Polite Arts, as embracing a greater variety of subjects, presents us, undoubtedly, with a greater variety of writers; but our readers will think the same observation applicable, when, on a retrospect, they calculate for themselves that the first volume of this department contains not more than twenty-nine memoirs, composed by twenty-one members, several of which are short poetical effusions; and that the second comprises only twenty memoirs, of which thirteen are the production of five members alone. Is it that the great body of the Institute are indolent or incapable, that the entire task of composition is thus devolved on a handful of the more active and industrious? or that, as sometimes unfortunately occurs in other public societies, it requires no small degree of personal interest to obtain an introduction to the public eye? Be this as it may, the want of a sufficient variety both of writers and subjects cannot but be felt by every one who critically peruses the labours of the Institute, and is the unquestionable cause why complete treatises on particular topics, amounting occasionally to upwards of 200 pages, and constituting each of them a bulky volume of itself, are thrust into the present publication under the misapplied name of Memoirs. As to the style of the writers here presented to us, we may say of all of them in general, that it is too loose and diffuse; that, in many instances, no clear idea



is communicated of the author's object and intention; while, in many of the more abstruse and metaphysical papers, when an idea is once attempted to be rendered precise, and, if we may be allowed the expression, *tangible*, it is lost in a wood of words, and we are compelled to begin the hunt again, and retrace the ground we had already trodden. Were most of the articles compressed into half the space they now occupy, they would be at least doubled in their value; the writer's object would in general be rendered far more clear and comprehensive; and he would be disburdened, in many instances, of a vast incumbrance of idle and affected learning, which discovers more of the superficial pedagogue than the profound but unobtrusive scholar.

These and other similar objections—we now speak from personal knowledge—have hitherto operated against presenting the Memoirs of the National Institute to the public in an English dress. We know that arrangements for this purpose have been twice attempted by different scholars well qualified for the task; but, from the defects we have now summarily pointed out, the version in both instances has been relinquished, and we have now no idea of seeing any such attempt revived.

The National Institute is however but at present in its infancy; it has had many difficulties and perplexities to struggle with; it was born in the midmost uproar of thunder and tempest; and perhaps we should, after all, rather express our surprise that it has been capable of maintaining its existence at all, than that it should have made no further progress towards perfection. Constituted as it seems to be for many of the best purposes of science, the sincerest wish of our heart is—ESTO PERPETUUS.

We have received the third volume of the different classes, and shall commence a critical analysis of them in our next Appendix.

ART. V.—*Vie Polémique de Voltaire, ou Histoire de ses Proscriptions, avec les Pièces justificatives.* Par G\*\*\*\*y. Paris. 1802.

*Polemic Life of Voltaire, or History of his Proscriptions; with vindictory Papers.* By G\*\*\*\*y. 8vo. Imported by De Boffe.

THE vanity and irritability of Voltaire are well known; and the arch-poet of France, with Boileau, and our own countryman Pope, may well justify the sarcasm, and establish the title of '*genus irritabile*.' Neither could 'bear a brother near his throne;' and Jean Baptiste Rousseau, Quinault, and Theobald, with many others, might have descended to posterity with no inconsiderable credit, had they not encountered the grey goose-quill of these satirists. Perhaps, indeed, we injure Pope and

Boileau by classing them with Voltaire. They were goaded by abuse long before they retaliated; but they retaliated at last with little mercy, and not always with justice or discrimination. Voltaire, on the contrary, had always a quill to direct on every side where he did not find a flatterer, or sometimes where any thing smart or witty occurred. Neither friendship nor obligations could check the sarcasm which he thought might in the end redound to his own credit. It is not singular, therefore, that his polemic life fills a large volume. We have read it with pleasure, because it recalls the little disputes which once entertained us; and with some information, as explaining what, perhaps from the distance of the scene, was before unaccountable. The work commences with spirit and elegance.

‘The life of the great Condé, painted in the gallery of Chantilly, represented, on one side, the Historic Muse tearing from the collection of that prince’s actions the leaves that contained those in which he opposed his king and his country: on the other side the hero stops the trumpet of Fame, preparing to publish both his good and his bad actions. If the statues erected to Voltaire had thus represented him treading under foot the infamous collection of pamphlets published in violation of truth and decency, and the poet rejecting, with an air of indignation and tears of penitence, that pen of iron and dirt, which has mangled religion and destroyed the characters of literary men, we would willingly have dispensed with the publication of the present work. But far different were these sentiments from those of the hero of literature. He never wished to check the progress of those publications which have sullied his glory. In his extreme age we have seen him give a new current to the bitterness of his bile; direct fresh attacks against Christianity, and those who defended and respected it. We may say that his genius acquired new vigour when inspired by hatred or impiety.’

M. G\*\*\*\*y next explains his object more clearly, and the plan which he has followed; but the work does not require such minute detail. We shall give the outline of the contents, and some specimens of the author’s manner, which is on every occasion manly and judicious. He shows a regulated zeal in favour of religion, decency, and propriety, which strongly interests us in his favour.

The first antagonist of Voltaire was Jean Baptiste Rousseau, the Pindar of France. The genius of Jean *Baptiste*, who must not be confounded with Jean *Jacques*, was not of the first class; and he had faults sufficient to justify the criticism, though not to justify the critic, who had been patronised by Rousseau in his early youth, and was only offended by his



not joining in general indiscriminate applause of Voltaire's first works, particularly that of *Zara*.

The abbé Desfontaines offended Voltaire by some 'judicious and moderate reflexions' on the *Death of Cæsar*; but, if we recollect rightly, however judicious, they were by no means moderate. Voltaire, however, did not carry his resentment so high as in the first instance; and the effects are little known beyond the country which gave them birth.

Maupertuis, president of the Berlin Academy, was another antagonist of Voltaire; and at this moment we cannot properly appreciate the merits of the dispute. The author, as usual, adopts the cause of the president. Maupertuis was not a very acute philosopher, nor a brilliant genius\*; and Voltaire, who undoubtedly irritated him by accusing him of plagiarism from Leibnitz, was irritated in turn by the king's adopting the cause of the president. We find in this volume an explanation of Frederic's conduct; which Voltaire, in his *Memoirs*, represents as unreasonable and capricious. Voltaire cannot answer for himself; but this narrative is supported by collateral evidence. We shall add Voltaire's letter to the secretary of the Berlin Academy, as it has never yet been published in his works.

' Mr., eternal, Secretary,

' I send you the death-warrant which the president has issued against me, with my appeal to the public, and the protections sent me by all the physicians and apothecaries of *Leipsic*. You see that the president does not confine himself to the experiments which he projected in the northern regions, and that he is resolved to separate in the north my soul from my body. It is the first time that a president has wished to kill one of his counsellors. Is this the principle of the 'least action †?' What a terrible man is this president? He declares himself guilty of forgery on one hand, and assassinates on the other; and proves the existence of a God by  $\frac{a+b}{x}$ . In truth I have seen nothing like it; but, sir, I have made one little reflexion. When the president has killed, dissected, and buried me, he must pronounce my *éloge* to the Academy, according to laudable customs. If this should be his lot, he will be somewhat embarrassed. We know how much he was so with the marshal de Sch—metteau, to whom he had given some uneasiness during his life. If you, sir, make my funeral oration,

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\* Even his accuracy in the measurement of a degree of the meridian in the arctic circle has lately been impeached.

† The subject on which it was asserted that Maupertuis had stolen from Leibnitz.

you will be scarcely less embarrassed. You are a priest, and I am a deist: you are a Calvinist, and I am a papist: you are an author, and I am the same: you are in health, and I am a physician. So, sir, to escape this office, and to put the world at rest, suffer me to die by the hands of the president, and erase me from your list. You will perceive that, being condemned by his sentence, I shall probably be degraded. Erase me then from your catalogue, and place me with the Kœnig accused of forgery, who had however the misfortune to be right. I shall wait with patience for death with this culprit—*pariterque cadentes, ignovere deis.*

‘I am, sir, *metaphysically*, yours, &c.’

With M. Beaumelle Voltaire quarrelled at Berlin; but Beaumelle gave the first provocation, though he was afterwards pursued by Voltaire with a pertinacity and malignity which nothing could excuse. St. Hyacinthe was also the aggressor, and Voltaire only made the accusation public by his notice of it; but the dispute never became very interesting. His quarrel with Vernet arose from the unfavorable account given of Geneva in his History, and in the Encyclopædia. This Vernet resented, though he allowed that some years before he had offered his assistance as editor of the former work. It does not however appear that the offensive parts were then in existence, or at least that Vernet was acquainted with them: besides, Vernet was a man of true religion, irreproachable integrity, and decency of conduct. The contrast was too great to be borne with patience by the philosopher of Ferney.

The quarrel with M. de Pompignan is not very intelligibly related; but it contains a very humorous, though probably a fictitious, or at least an embellished, account of a deputation, at the head of which was M. l’Archer, the learned translator of Herodotus, to examine Voltaire’s proficiency in Greek. They found him, it is said, reading Greek authors with the assistance of wretched translations; and forbade him to speak of, or write concerning, Greek literature again. One foundation of the quarrel seems to have been M. de Pompignan’s translation of Pope’s Universal Prayer. Voltaire’s attack on M. Le Franc, bishop of Puy, seems wholly unprovoked and unjustifiable.

The abbé Ronotte had filled two duodecimo volumes with the mistakes occurring in Voltaire’s General History. This was enough to rouse the historian’s resentment; but it is displayed in the lowest abuse, and continued far beyond the period that even unmerited severity would justify. The abbé’s work, however, is remarkably temperate and judicious.

The marquis Maffei, author of the Italian Merope, was introduced to and flattered by Voltaire at Paris. Voltaire, however, unfortunately copied from the Italian tragedy; and from



that time the credit of his own was, in his opinion, only to rest on the destruction of that of his prototype. It must be owned that Voltaire has improved on the original; but his character was not enhanced by the attack.

The Oracle of the new Philosophers was the work of the abbé Guyon; and in it the sophisms of Voltaire were assailed—perhaps refuted. No more was necessary to make the abbé the object of the poet's satire and hatred. M. Fréron was a more decided enemy, and pursued Voltaire in all his doublings, and opposed all his pretensions: Fréron was therefore the object of still greater resentment. Indeed Voltaire seems never weary of abusing him.

The quarrel between Voltaire and Jean Jacques Rousseau is well known. It is attributed to the recommendation of an established theatre at Geneva in the Encyclopædia, and to Rousseau's opposition. Whatever may have been the cause, Voltaire was the constant enemy of Jean Jaques, even in the early moments when he appeared to overwhelm him with praise. Which was the greater offender, we can scarcely say. Our author, as usual, condemns Voltaire.

Bishop Warburton was once highly praised by Voltaire; but the latter having, by a kind of alchymy—in the opinion of many no very difficult task—extracted infidelity from the Divine Legation, Warburton corrected his mistakes and erroneous quotations. *Hinc ille lacrymæ.* Warburton was no longer the 'learned bishop,' the 'sagacious inquirer;' he was scarcely superior to Fréron. M. Coger published an Examination of Bessarius; and Coger was a scribbler, an ignoramus, an assassin, and, if possible, worse. L'Archer attacked the Philosophy of History, and showed it to be a string of blunders and misrepresentations. Hence L'Archer was accused of the worst of crimes. Against Gresset he published nothing; but he did him, in private letters, the greatest injuries. An excellent letter of Haller's is preserved in this chapter, but too long for insertion.

The last chapter contains the occasional darts from the 'fretful porcupine,' who attacked all those who did not think him supreme in science and belles lettres, in philosophy and history, in poetry and criticism. On the whole, we perceive in this work too great a portion of the spirit of invective and resentment. Voltaire deserved much of this return; for he was often, perhaps almost always, reprehensible. Yet our author has occasionally gone too far, and magnified the merit of his enemies, while he has depressed his own. The life and character of Voltaire still require a calm dispassionate critic. In those departments where he has erred most grossly, he has done many things well. In dramatic poetry, he has carried the fame

of France to its highest pitch. His real knowledge of philosophy and ancient history was undoubtedly inconsiderable; and when he speaks of religion, he shows a more gross ignorance, and a more abject credulity, than have ever disgraced the followers of the lowest superstition. Every thing ridiculous was admitted into his writings, if he thought it aimed a blow against revelation.

ART. VI.—*Histoire Naturelle des Poissons.*

*The Natural History of Fishes. By C. La Cépède. Vol. III. 4to.*

OUR author's language was somewhat equivocal; for we supposed, and we suspect, that he, at the time, intended to convey the idea, that the third volume would be the last. We now find, however, that two others will follow; but the impression of the fourth is very nearly complete, and the fifth is seemingly in forwardness. The great number of new species is one cause of this extended bulk; for, in the present volume, of 298 species described, 100 were hitherto unknown. The genera are forty-eight, of which thirty-four are new. Of the 610 species described in these three volumes, 154 are new, but some of these are probably varieties alone. The number of plates in this volume, on account of the additional extent of the work, is not so great as was promised; we find thirty-four only.

The descriptions are preceded by a discourse on the influence of art on the nature of fishes; and its object is to show the different contrivances which human industry has executed, to obtain the greatest quantity of fishes for the use of man. M. La Cépède, at first, engages in the details of fishery; but is by no means acquainted with the subject, in its full extent, and all its varieties, for it would furnish a large and interesting volume. He next offers the means of multiplying the reproduction of fishes. 'The statesman,' says he, 'should consider fisheries as a second agriculture. The country gentleman should adopt them as a new source of riches and pleasure.' He shows methods of carrying and accustoming fishes to new situations, multiplying and improving them. The method of crossing the breeds succeeds as well with fishes as with other animals. The other means of improving them are, abundant and suitable nourishment, security, repose, and the proper choice of the parent stocks. Fishes, we find, are sometimes subject to epidemics, which can only be conveyed to them by deleterious miasmata in an aerial form. We must, however, repeat the observation, that citizen La Cépède is scarcely acquainted with any fishes beyond those in a glass vase or a pond.



After the essay in this volume, we find a continuation of the table of the nineteenth order of the class of fishes, or the third order of the first division of osseous fishes. We shall pursue the genus scomber, which was left unfinished in the second volume, as we noticed in the article respecting it in our 32d volume, New Arr. p. 562. The scomber germen is a new species, known to Commerson, and described in his MSS. It has been noticed by various navigators, and called by some 'long ear,' but never been distinguished in any publication. The *S. thazard* is also new, from the same collection: this species has been applied indiscriminately to many of the scombri, but is now properly limited. The *S. bonite* is the *S. pelamis* or pelamide of Linnæus and other naturalists. The *S. Sinensis* is described, in general terms, from a Chinese drawing. The scomber scombrus, the mackarel, is well known, and our author gives a good account of their migrations. They appear, from the observations of vice-admiral Pleville de Peley, to remain in a torpid state in the shallows, covered with snow, in the winter, and to recover their senses and sight very slowly. The *κολιας* of Aristotle, the *S. colias* of Linnæus, our author supposes to have been the mackarel. The scomber described by Sloane is added, with the trivial name of albacoras, which is thus limited to a single species, though this is not the first time that the term has been confined.

The next genus is a new one, the scomberoides; and the three species, the *S. Noel*, *Commersonianus*, and *saltator*, are in a great measure new. The last was indeed known to Plumier.

The sixty-second genus is the caranx, usually confounded with the scomber, but properly separated from it. Our readers may recognise it, when we remark that its principal species is called on the coast the horse-mackarel. We think we have remarked that the poisonous fishes are peculiarly distinguished by a disgusting appearance; and we know none of this kind which would not repel by such appearance any desire to taste it. The horse-mackarel is of this kind: its colour and shape, though approaching the pleasing form of the mackarel, is however yellow and frightful; nor is it without suspicion of being occasionally deleterious. The species are divided, as distinguished by many isolated points between the dorsal fins, or without them. The *C. trachurus* is the scomber trachurus of Linnæus, and the generic name is affixed from the peculiar projection of the fore part of the head. The *C. amia*, *chrysurus*, *glaucus*, and *albus*, are arranged by Linnæus under the genus scomber, with the same trivial names. The *C. erithurus* is the scomber hippos of Linnæus; the *C. filamentosus* is described by Mungo Parke in the Linnæan Transactions; the *C. Daubentonii* was described in the MSS. of Plumier. The *C. speciosus* (very beautiful) was described by Linnæus; and the *C. carangua* is de-

scribed from the drawings of Plumier. The *C. ferdau*, *göess*, *sansun*, and *korab*, were known to Linnæus: the second had the trivial name of *fulvo-guttatus*, and the last that of *ignobilis*. These are all inhabitants of the Red Sea, and form the second section of the genus.

The sixty-third genus is also taken from the scombri, and styled *trachinotus*. The only species is the *T. falcatus*, the *scomber falcatus* of Linnæus.

The sixty-fourth is the *caranxomorus*. The *scomber pelagicus* of Linnæus, and a new species from Plumier, with his own trivial name.

The sixty-fifth genus is entitled *cæcio*; and in this genus our author has included the *cœrulaureus* described by Commerson, and the *equulus*, placed by Forskall in the middle of the scombri, and by Gmelin among the *centrogasteri*.

The *cæsiomorus* is a new genus, containing two new species; one denominated from Baillon, the other from Block. The *coris* is also a new genus; and for its two species, the *C. aygula* and *angulatus*, we are apparently indebted to Commerson. The two species of the genus *gomphosis*, the *G. cœruleus* and *varius*, are derived from the same collection.

The *chaetodon unicornis* of Linnæus, with a new discovered species by Commerson, form, in our author's hands, a new genus under the name of *naso*; and the two species are *N. fronticornis* and *tuberosus*. A new genus is formed also under the name of *kyphosus*; of which there is only one species, the *bigibbus*, from its two protuberances.

The *goramy*—we mean the Chinese *goramy*, for the name has been given also to a species of *trichopodes*—is arranged under a new genus, the *osphronemus*, which contains only one other species, the *O. gallus*. The *goramy*, brought from China, has greatly multiplied in Bengal, and become one of the most delicate, and, from its size, one of the most valuable of the fresh-water fishes. The *O. gallus* is arranged by Linnæus under the genus *labrus*. The genus *trichopodus* contains two species—the *T. mentum*, which has not yet been included in any system, and is called by navigators the *goramy*, and the *T. tricopterus*, *labrus tricopterus* of Linnæus. The next is a new species and a new genus from Commerson, the *monodactylus falciformis*. That which follows is also new, the *plectorinchus chaetodontoides*; the generic name derived from the singular folds of the muzzle. The *pogonias fasciatus* is a new individual, constituting a new genus from the singular beard on the lower jaw. In the *bostrichus*, another new genus, the whiskers are on the upper jaw; and two species are described, the *B. Sinensis* and *maculatus*: the former taken from Chinese drawings. The *bostrychoides oculatus* is from the same source.

The *echeneis* is a Linnæan genus; and the *E. remora*, or the



sucking-fish, is known from its sticking in numbers to the keels of ships, and retarding—described somewhat too poetically in the volume before us—their course. The *E. naucrates* occurs also in Gmelin's edition, and the *E. lineata* is described in the Linnæan Transactions.

The *macrourus* is a genus formed by Block; and the *M. berglex* of La Cépède is the *M. rupestris* of Block, the *coryphæna rupestris* of Linnæus. The trivial name is of northern origin, from its resemblance to a species of salmon, with a similar appellation.

The dolphin *coryphæna* is a very extensive genus, whose ranks have however been thinned by later naturalists. The *C. hippurus*, *aurata* (*equiselis* L.), *undulata* (*fasciolata* L.), *pompilus*, *cœrulea*, *Plumieri*, *novacula*, *psittacus*, *sima*, *lineata*, *acuta*, and *viridus*, were known to the latest editor of the Linnæan system. The *C. chrysurus* and *scombroides* are from Commerson: the *C. Sinensis* from some Chinese drawings.

The *hæmipteronotus* is very properly made a distinct genus: it contains the *coryphæna pentadactyla*, under the trivial name of *quinquemaculatus*, and the *C. hemiptera* Linn. with the specific appellation of *Gmelini*. The form of the branchial apertures has induced our author to separate the *coryphæna branchiostega* under a new genus, with the very improper title of *coryphænoides*. The specific distinction is from Hottuyn.

M. La Cépède has separated from the *cotti* those fishes covered with hard scales resembling rings, and formed a new genus entitled *aspidophorus*. The first is *A. armatus*, the *cottus calaphractus* of Linnæus; the second the *A. lisiza*, *C. Japonicus* L. The *C. monopterygius* L. is, we think improperly, separated from the *aspidophori*, under the exceptionable title of *aspidophoroides* Tranquebar. The *cottus* is a well known genus, and the *C. grunniens*, *scorpius*, *quadricornis*, *scaber*, *insidiator*, and *gobio*, are the same with the Linnæan species. The *cottus Australis* is from New South Wales; the *C. Madagascar* and *Niger* from Commerson.

The genus *scorpæna* is also not greatly changed from the Linnæan system. We find the *S. horrida*, *Africana* (*Capensis* L.), *spinosa*, *Massiliensis* (referred by L. to the genus *cottus* which it greatly resembles), *rascassa* (*porcus* L.), *scrofa*, *didactyla*, and *volitans* of former authors. There are also several new ones, viz. the *S. aculeata*, from the Museum of Natural History, the *bicirrata* and *mahe* from Commerson; the *barbata* from Gronovius; *Plumieri* from the MSS. of that naturalist; and *Americana* from Du Hamel.

A fish found on the shores of Martinico by Plumier was referred by him to the *scombri*; but, from the drawing preserved in the Museum, it appears to be a different fish, and is inserted in this volume under the generic name of *scombromorus*.

The gasterosteus contains the three Linnæan species, *aculeatus*, *pungilius*, and *spinachia*. The *centropus rhombeus* from Forskål is one of the species of *centrogaster*; and under the genus *centrogaster* we find the two Linnæan species, *fuscescens* and *argentatus*. The three following genera, the *centronotus*, the *lepisacanthus*, and the *cephalacanthus*, are separated from the numerous genus of *gasterosteus*, from circumstances apparently too minute and refined, but perhaps, on the whole, with sufficient propriety. They are of little importance, and contain no great number of individuals, if we except the pilot-fishes.

The flying-fishes are separated from the extensive genus of *trigla*, and divided into two genera—the *dactylopterus*, or those whose wings are attached to the fingers; and the *prionotus*, from the spines on the back. The *triglæ* are still sufficiently numerous. We find the *T. lyra*, *Asiatica*, *Carolina*, *lastoviza* (*Adriatica* L.), *hirundo*, *gurnardus*, *milvus* (*lucerna*, L.), and *minuta* of former authors. The *T. punctata* and *pini* from Block, and the *cavilone* from Rondelet. The *T. cataphracta* L. is separated under another genus, by our author, on account of the bony plates with which the upper part of the body is covered, under the name of *peristedion*, with the trivial name of *marmalat*; and another species, the *P. chabrontera*, from Osbeck, is added.

The flying sword-fish is under the genus *istiophorus*, with the specific name of *gladifer*. It is sometimes called the sea-woodcock. The *gymnetrus hawken* of Block also forms a separate genus, though admitted as such with some hesitation.

The *mullus* is an extensive genus, and one of the few articles of food in which modern luxury agrees with the ancient. The species are numerous, and many of them new. The *mullus ruber* (*barbatus* L.), *surmuletus*, *auriflamma*, *Japonicus*, *vittatus*, and *maculatus* (*surmuletus* var. B. L.), were known to former authors. From the manuscripts of Commerson our author has added *M. bifasciatus*, *cyclostomus*, *trifasciatus*, *macronemus*, *barberinus*, *rubescens*, *criserydros*, and *flavo lineatus*. The absence of the whiskers fully justifies M. La Cépède in separating the *mullus imberbis*. He has formed a new genus for it, under the name of *apogon*: it contains only one species. The *lonchurus* is a new genus also from Block; viz. the long-tailed, from the length of the filament, which terminates each thoracic fin. Another new genus is proposed for a beautiful fish known only from Chinese drawings; and it is entitled *macro-podus viridi-auratus*.

Though our article might be extended farther, and comprehend the remainder of the volume, yet we shall now stop. The seventeen genera which follow form one vast family of more than 200 species, which differ by almost imperceptible gradations, so as to mock the attempts of the ablest systematic.



It will be therefore necessary to survey them at one view, which we can do with advantage when the whole is before us. The best naturalists have hitherto failed in this part; and even Block's system is imperfect; for he has not comprised all the species known at this time; and many others are added by our author. Of the seventeen genera which constitute this groupe only five are noticed in the present volume; and the fourth, as we have said, is not yet published.

VII.—*Néologie, ou Vocabulaire de Mots Nouveaux, &c.* Paris.

*Neology, or a Vocabulary of new Words—Words to be renewed or to be taken in new Acceptations.* By L. S. Mercier, Member of the National Institute of France. 2 Vols. 8vo. Imported by De Boffe. 1801.

TO these volumes is prefixed a smirking portrait, which Lavater might safely pronounce to indicate decided fatuity and petulance in the author; while the puffing inscription at the bottom is in strict harmony with it. Yet Mercier has published works which have attracted some notice, from a kind of scatter-brained genius and eccentricity, sometimes wise and sometimes foolish. How he came to be born at Paris we cannot conceive, as he is certainly by birth a Gascon, of a pert dull liveliness, and perpetual fanfaronade. This book is another Night-cap, full of his own head and of himself;—*mais sa tête est trop proche de son bonnet.*

There is nothing illaudable in the attempt to introduce new words into the French language, or to renew strong and emphatic expressions which have become antiquated; for the tame academy in the time of Lewis XIV., by a pretended purification, only shackled the language, and, by their preposterous bandages, rendered it almost lifeless. Hence there was neither force nor soul left sufficient to constitute an epic poem, or any grand production in blank verse. But, in any attempt of this kind, more taste and judgement, and particularly more good sense, were requisite, than have fallen to the lot of Mercier, whose ideas are uncommonly wild and gigantic. The latter quality of good sense, though abundantly displayed in their scientific productions, yet seems particularly scarce in France, in many things that relate to politics, and what are called works of genius. The vanity and fatuity of many late French novels, memoirs, &c. which have deeply impressed us not only with the absence of good sense, but even with the negation of common sense, the chief objects aimed at, appear to us to be what are called *esprit*, and a kind of elocution which we believe was first introduced by Rousseau, and was rendered fashionable by the

women whose feelings he was artful enough to court, but of which whole pages may be read without learning any thing. We heartily wish that an academy of good sense were instituted in France, which is more necessary than any other institution whatever. We daily see issued from the press works of history, and other branches of science, without any references to the authorities; so that the whole becomes a romance, and the reputation expires with the author. Thus Raynal's History of the East and West Indies was at first received as a grand and important production, but has since sunk into disesteem, because, upon recurring to the proper authorities which must have been used, it is found to swarm with a thousand errors. This fate might have been avoided, if he had marked his authorities at the bottom of his page, as usual in the classical productions of other countries—a practice which, by its very nature, would have taught him solidity and veracity, and have secured to his book a lasting foundation. In like manner even the eloquence of Buffon begins to yield and fade away, because every page has its errors, because he is full of ridiculous prejudices and absurd theories, and because an author, who gravely asserts that black cattle shed their horns every three years, must have been a total stranger to that practical knowledge which is the chief requisite in treating natural history.

To return: our author begins with a preface of seventy-six pages, for he has an eternal flux of the mouth, and of course sometimes blunders upon good things, which are fortunately remembered, while the rest are forgotten. He informs us, p. xli. that the French language has neither turns, constructions, nor periods, because the words cannot be arranged as one pleases! At this rate there are neither turns, constructions, nor periods in any language, as they wholly depend upon the idiom. We must whisper to Mercier, that he is grossly ignorant; and, such is the fate of France, that the literary character seems, with a few exceptions, to be confined to eloquence without knowledge, and to knowledge without eloquence! The ancient philosophers were men of profound learning, who often dedicated their lives to acquire solid and practical knowledge of certain topics; while the modern, and the French in particular, with Rousseau at their head, are disgraced by the grossest ignorance which they attempt to disguise by the varnish of eloquence. In the same page our author promises an universal dictionary of the French language, for which he is just as qualified as the learned pig. We should be glad to see a new French and English dictionary; for the best we have wants about four thousand words. Our author proceeds to tell us, that he published, a long time ago, a novel called *L'Homme Sauvage*, which bears the character of a writer created to impose silence on the whole crowd of foolish critics with whom France



abounds.' We wish that Bonaparte would erect two temples at Paris—one dedicated to good sense, and the other to modesty; but we are afraid that the worshippers would be few. The author's detestation of atheism we highly approve, though we look upon Mercier as rather a distorted pillar of the temple of religion.

'I have, besides, a singular quality in my eye, which is inborn. When I hear a man speak in public, unfold his learning, raise trophies upon what he has said, speak of his own genius, and his own taste, I see around his chair a multitude of little infantine faces which laugh maliciously, point to the quack, jeer at his words, and exhibit every mark of compassion. These are certainly the generation about to be born which I thus perceive.'

All this so completely applies to our author, that we think we see him in his arm-chair, speaking, as he does in the present work, of his own wonderful productions, while the little faces of posterity are convulsed with laughter.

The preface ends, and the work begins, with an attack upon sir Isaac Newton, against whom our author has repeatedly declared his enmity. To speak in the veterinary language, we suppose that he has taken a *scare* at Newton, whose writings must infinitely surpass his comprehension. It is besides natural that a wrong-headed and eccentric writer should have a mortal hatred to solid judgement and laborious investigation.

The work itself consists of an alphabetical arrangement of words, accompanied with remarks—sometimes just, but more frequently ignorant and petulant. As they often turn upon mere shades of a foreign language, it cannot be supposed to interest the English reader. A very few specimens must suffice.

'ALARMIST. The astronomer Lalande was a great alarmist about thirty years ago, on account of a memoir read to the Academy of Sciences, in which he admitted the possibility of a comet striking the earth. Versailles was frightened, and threatened the alarmist with the Bastille if he had any relapse.

'AMPHORES. Set on my table these two amphores of crystal, and pour in the red wine: nothing is more pleasant to the eye. I wish to banish the ignoble word bottle.'

The author had far better adopted the English word decanter. But his deplorable ignorance shines even here—for two *amphore* would crush his table to pieces, and probably break the shins of the etymologist. A similar learning appears, vol. i. p. 90, where he gravely informs us that the emperor Maximilian I. who aspired to be pope, was one of the successors of Charles V. Is it necessary to tell M. Mercier that Maximilian was the grandfather of Charles V.? A more consummate ignorance of the commonest points of modern history never was displayed; and we could easily mention the names

of thirty very great modern French philosophers, who have unhappily the talent of writing without having read any thing, and who in England or Scotland would not be thought qualified to teach in a country school. A dissertation on ignorant philosophy, with a catalogue of ignorant philosophers, would form a most interesting work, and of the most solid and lasting advantage to society: for experience has sufficiently proved, that nothing can be more dangerous to any country, than for men to pretend to teach who have not themselves learned.

‘**DESCRIBER.** All those who are candid will allow that Homer, who is regarded as a gigantic genius, has only a few excellent passages; that his naps are long and frequent; and that, in spite of his fifteen hundred commentators and translators, he is monotonous, verbose, and a describer even to satiety.’

It was natural that he who attacks Newton should also attack Homer. But we must inform our author, that he is only as good a judge of both as a blind man is of colours.

‘**PHANTASMAGORIA.** A play of optics, which displays all the multiplied and delicate conflicts of light and shade, and which reveals at the same time the ancient tricks of priests. These moving phantoms, created at will, these false appearances, amuse the vulgar, and make the philosopher think. What is the spectre of the mirror, or in the mirror? Does it exist, or does it not exist? What a prodigious tenuity of coloured rays! What an astonishing medium between matter which we feel, and spirit which we cannot touch! O spectre! O spectre! O figurability! what art thou? It has not yet been discovered how to form a large spectacle of these curious and surprising experiments. Instead of these puerile illuminations, this uniform, miserable, and confined repetition, command the ingenious Robertson to show us, dancing on the roofs of the houses, impalpable beings as tall as the towers of Notre Dame. These extraordinary and marvellous spectacles would form naturalists and admirers of nature, which would be better than mad purchasers of paintings, against whom I prepare a good article.’

The article Genius might in like manner be selected as another specimen of absurdity; but we are already tired and disgusted with this strange monument of ignorance and self-importance. At the end, Mercier advertises a work of 400 pages, on the physical impossibility of the system of Copernicus, and of the chimera called the Newtonian attraction!



ART. VIII.—*Géographie Moderne et Universelle, &c.* Paris.

*Modern and Universal Geography, preceded by a Treatise on the Sphere, and an Abstract of Astronomy, &c.* By Nicolle de la Croix. *A new Edition, &c.* By Victor Comeiras. 2 Vols. 8vo. Imported by De Boffe.

THE Geography of La Croix is well known as the best abridgment in the French language; and it has in consequence passed through a great number of editions. We know nothing of Comeiras the present editor; but can safely pronounce, upon an inspection of various parts, that he is wholly unqualified for the task he has undertaken, and, instead of pretending to teach geography, should himself go to school. His assertion, that Guthrie, or rather his late editors, have been greatly indebted to La Croix, is very true; but certainly no author will ever be indebted to Victor Comeiras. The few maps are of 1781, and are already antiquated by more recent discoveries.

The book of La Croix, having been composed about a century ago, must naturally have received many additions and improvements by different editors: the manner is tedious and confused, and not adapted to the progress and precision of modern information. Many of the topics have also long since ceased to interest the public. As to the present editor, he has left all the errors as he found them, and has added many others of his own. We have only to refer the geographical student to the general account of rivers (vol. i. p. 80), in which almost every thing is erroneous, and very few of the names are even rightly spelled. It would be beneath the dignity of science to point out errors so completely puerile. We shall merely observe, that the whole chapter is the most complete and risible piece of ignorance that we have met with in any book published within a century. Upon turning to the edition of La Croix, Paris, 1786, we find that he has been contented (vol. i. p. 53) with a bare enumeration of the names of the chief rivers; so that to his wonderful editor Comeiras alone, are we indebted for a series of blunders that would disgrace the twelfth century—such as the vast rivers Menamion and Sinderoias, neither of which exist in nature. Amidst such fables, the error (p. 82) in confounding the Niger with the Senegal becomes nothing, though of itself sufficiently portentous at the present day. To our readers who wish to indulge their risible faculties we may recommend the perusal of the entire chapter, which is to us wholly unaccountable; except that the editor, in the true spirit of quackery, thought his dreams or inventions would be gravely received

as proofs of superior knowledge! He proceeds to tell us that the greatest cataract in the world is that of *Terny*, a little town on the road from Rome to Bologna! Thus our author had never heard of Niagara, of the Nile, &c. &c.

*Ex pede Herculem.* From this specimen our readers will judge of the editor's qualifications, and will be led directly to prefer the old cheap editions of La Croix to this farrago of inanity. The information of La Croix is generally solid and accurate—and we have only to regret its brevity; while every page of the present edition is rendered suspicious by the editor's want of common knowledge. It was truly ridiculous to retain (vol. ii. p. 493) the fables of Buache concerning a great western sea in North America, after they had been exploded by the discoveries of Cook, Vancouver, and Hearne. But we need not further enlarge on a book so shamefully disgraceful to the progress of science, to the editor, and even to the booksellers, whose want of judgement has induced them to publish such a scandalous imposition.

ART. IX.—*Geschichte der Kriegskunst, &c.* Göttingen.

*History of the Art of War, from the first Use of Gunpowder to the End of the Eighteenth Century.* By J. G. Hoyer. 2 Vols. 8vo.

THOUGH this appears as a separate publication, it is in reality the second section of the History of Mathematical Sciences, inserted in a valuable work, entitled, 'The History of the Arts and Sciences, from the Revival of Letters to the End of the 18th Century,' by a Literary Society.

M. Hoyer, to whom this part of the subject was intrusted, divides the history into seven periods. The first extends from the time of the earliest use of fire-arms to the end of the campaign of Charles VIII. in Italy; that is, from the beginning of the fourteenth to about the end of the fifteenth century. The second from this last æra to the commencement of the wars in the Low Countries, about the middle of the sixteenth century—a period which includes the wars of the French, Spaniards, and Germans, in Italy. The third period reaches from the middle of the sixteenth to the beginning of the seventeenth century, during the war in the Low Countries. The fourth includes the thirty-years' war, and extends to the middle of the seventeenth century. The fifth, the French wars in the Low Countries, reaching to the middle of the eighteenth century. The sixth, the three wars in Silesia; and the seventh, the war occasioned by the French revolution.

In each æra the author traces the state of the art in its different



branches, as infantry, cavalry, fortification, &c. The sixth and seventh periods are detailed with the greatest care and precision.

We may perhaps be allowed to remark, that the origin of topographical charts, assigned by the author, is too recent. He supposes them to have been first employed in the seven-years' war. It is certain that the chart of Saxony, Brandenburg, Silesia, and Bohemia, constructed by Petri, appeared at this period; but, previous to it, there were topographical charts of the frontier of Austria, of Hungary, of Swabia, of the two Rhines, and of Lorraine. M. Hoyer should have spoken only of the former publication, for the latter were preserved, as important secrets, with great care.

We may at this time mention also a slight error, which may be rectified in a future edition. It relates to the horse-artillery in Russia. This artillery was first formed in 1796, with the consent of Catharine, by general Melissino. It was first tried in the spring of 1796, with four companies, commanded by prince Radzevil, under the more immediate authority of captains Buckmeyer, Tutschkoff, and Bogdanoff. Though the attempt succeeded very well, yet the horse artillery was neglected; and in the Russian armies in Holland, Italy, and Switzerland, there were no light field-pieces of this kind. It was only in 1799 that the emperor Paul thought of re-establishing it.

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ART. X.—*Handbuch der theoretischen und practischen Chemie, &c.* Iena.

*A Manual of theoretical and practical Chemistry.* By J. F. A. Gaetling. 3 Vols. 8vo.

WE shall confine our remarks to the third volume, since we have already announced the publication of the two former, and they do not, on examination, furnish any observation of importance. The present volume is exclusively pharmaceutical; but the arrangement is rather practical than scientific. Without however transcribing long recipes for making essences, tinctures, electuaries, pills, powders, ointments, &c. the author explains the principles, according to which they should be made; and by these the value of the formulæ in different Dispensatories may be appreciated.

After describing, in the introduction, the utensils of pharmacy, the collection, and the form of medicines, the author divides his work into seven sections. In the first he treats of salts and their decompositions, including under the term salts the alkaline,

metallic, and earthy; adding, in this, as in every other section, a list of the best works on the subject. The second section treats of the vegetable and animal productions, with their changes and combinations, subjoining the pharmaceutical treatment. In the third section he speaks of the three kinds of fermentation; and, under the title of spirituous fermentation, he discourses upon æthers, artificial naphthas, &c. The fourth section comprises the products obtained by means of fire from different vegetable, animal, and mineral bodies, as the empyreumatic acids, the acid of amber, pot-ash, and the empyreumatic oils. The fifth section contains the metals, and their different degrees of oxidation. The sixth, sulphur, with its different forms and combinations, as the balsam of sulphur, liver of sulphur, sulphurated metals, &c.; and the seventh, water, and mineral waters, with their artificial preparation.

On the whole, this volume is rather an abstract of the chemical work, than strictly pharmaceutical. But, while chemistry is now cultivated with so much care, why is not its application to pharmacy more noticed, and the nature of the pharmaceutical operations more studiously developed? In no English work within our knowledge is the chemical nature of corrosive sublimate properly explained; and we should seek in vain in every Dispensatory within our reach—we believe, in every one hitherto published—for the chemical distinction between the sulphur auratum antimonii and the kermes mineral.



# RETROSPECT

## OF

# FOREIGN LITERATURE.

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### FRANCE.

*Tableau de l'Agriculture Toscane, &c. View of the Tuscan Agriculture.* By J. L. Simonde of Geneva. 8vo. Geneva.—While agriculture is so fashionable and so interesting an amusement, the speculative farmer may perhaps choose to extend his views to the practice of other countries. The present work contains many novelties; and the various methods proposed have been repeated by the author. He explains the different husbandry employed on the plains, the hills, and the mountains; the modes of fertilising by watering, fallowing, the plantation of trees, manures, &c.; adding the Tuscan method of preserving wheat. M. Simonde treats also of the clearing of the hills, the plantations of olive-trees, of vines, orange-trees, &c. The same observations are applied to the mountains; and the management of chesnut-trees, with the state of the manufactures established in the defiles of the mountains, is explained at length. In each division a chapter is allotted to the culture of gardens, to the difference of climate, and of the condition of the peasants. The work concludes with a comparative table of the money, weights, and measures, of Tuscany.

*Traité théorique et pratique sur la Culture de la Vigne, &c. Theoretical and practical Treatise on the Culture of the Vine, with the Art of making Wine, Brandy, Spirit of Wine, Vinegar, &c.* By Citizens Chaptal, Rozier, Parmentier, and Dussieux. 2 Vols. 8vo. with 21 Plates. Paris.—This is a most valuable and important work, and would merit a much more extensive consideration, were the subject of more general consequence, at least of more consequence to this kingdom. It is an excellent companion to M. Chaptal's Treatise on the Method of making Wine, and, indeed, includes the more valuable parts of that tract. The plates represent the different species of vine, the machines and instruments employed in making wine, brandy, &c.

*Traité de la Physique Végétale des Bois, &c. Physico-vegetal Treatise on Forests, and on the principal Operations relating to them, &c. By Cn. Goube, Warden of the Forests. 8vo. Paris.*—This work appears with the approbation of the ministers of the forests, and is a theoretical as well as a practical treatise on every thing relating to the subject proposed, which is, in general, detailed with great precision and judgement. The first part contains the results of the inquiries and observations made on the best methods of replanting the forests, and the improvement of the remaining plants, or those which may be produced. The second part contains details of the most advantageous methods of management before the sales, during the felling of the wood, or subsequent to this period.

*Traité ou Manuel Vétérinaire des Plantes, &c. Veterinary Manual of Plants fit to be used as Food or Medicine for domestic Animals. 3 Vols. 8vo.*—The manual before us is arranged in the alphabetic order of the names of the plants, with the addition of the Linnæan and common names. Those are next particularly mentioned which are adapted for horses, cows, goats, &c. or are employed in veterinary medicine; together with the principal insects which destroy plants. The first volume is concluded by an alphabetic table of the French names of plants, with corresponding numbers of the Latin appellations.

The second part, which is sold separately, comprehends observations on the plants found in natural or artificial meadows; together with those employed in veterinary pharmacy. Some remarks are subjoined relative to the vegetables proper for the nourishment of birds, and those which serve as a bait for fish. A letter from MM. Contardi, Rocca, and Duchet, on bees, and a list of the plants adapted for them, concludes this part.

The third contains only two Latin dissertations of Linnæus, from the *Amœnitates Academicæ*, entitled, *Pan Succus, and Hospitia Insectorum Flora*.

*Traité des Moyens de désinfecter l'Air, &c. Treatise on the Means of purifying infected Air, of preventing Contagion, and stopping its Progress. By J. B. Guyton de Morveau. 8vo.*—Our author is said to have been engaged in these inquiries for twenty-five years; and when the epidemic raged in Genoa, in the year 1800, with so much violence as to carry off 400 in a day, he published an account of the use he had made of fumigations of the mineral acids to purify the air infected with the putrid effluvia; of the good opinion many learned societies entertained of this method; and of its particular success in destroying the miasmata of the hospital fever, which was the epidemic of Genoa.

Since that period he has been employed in arranging the materials of this treatise, in weighing the objections made to his



plan, and examining the effects of the remedies usually employed in this fever. He found that, independent of cleanliness and the distance of church-yards, every other method was useless. It is singular that the method of purifying the air by acid fumigations was known at Madrid, three years before the epidemic at Cadiz; but was not employed there, though it was very successful at Seville.

The treatise before us is divided into four parts, which treat of the first attempts to purify the air by the muriatic acid; of the experiments made in the Russian and English fleets; and of the method of fumigation adopted in Spain. In the first section of the third part, the author examines the effects of acid fumigations, established by the many experiments quoted in the work; the opinions offered on this subject; and the consequences to be drawn from the experiments, which are twenty-four in number. In the second section he considers the subject chemically, and treats of the principles which will assist us in choosing the means of correcting the insalubrity of the air, and checking the progress of infection; of the influence of oxygen in depriving air of contagious principles; of oxygenants, and particularly of the oxygenated muriatic acid, as agents for this purpose. He examines also whether the same means may be employed in contagions of a different nature. In the fourth part he points out the true antidotes to infection, and teaches us the manner of employing them.

On this subject we soon mean to take an opportunity of enlarging; and a foreign work, now under consideration, may furnish it. At present we shall remark, in few words, that free ventilation is the only secure method of purifying air; for this contributes to the solution of the putrid miasmata, or to their diffusion, which equally prevent them from injuring the human body. When this is impracticable, oxydating substances, for reasons too long to insist on here, are the only succedanea. Nitrous vapour disguises the smell, without meliorating the air.

*Histoire politique et raisonnée du Consulat. History of the Consulate. By V. Comeiras. 8vo. Paris.*—Whatever relates to consuls must be now the mode; and the present tract is an abstract of the Roman system, in whatever relates to the consulate. It is appropriated to the French nation, by a general view of the administration of the present first consul of France, which, of course, is all-wise and all-glorious.

*Histoire critique de l'Établissement des François dans les Gaules, &c. Critical History of the Settlement of the Franks in Gaul; a posthumous Work of the President Henault, published from his original MS. 2 Vols. 8vo.*—The two points which it is the object of the president to ascertain, are, first, the epoch of

the establishment; and, secondly, the manner in which it was effected.

The abbé Dubos fixes the establishment of the Franks in Gaul at three principal epochs. The first was in 351, when they mixed with the Romans established in Gaul, to whom they were tributary. The second in 445, when they possessed an independent territory in Gaul; and the third when they received its sovereignty from Justinian. These facts are admitted by the president; but the principal object of his work is to elucidate the second. The abbé Dubos went too far in opposing Boulanvilliers, who contended that the Gauls did not obtain the country by right of conquest, but by permission of the Romans. The president explains in a masterly manner the whole subject, and concludes with supporting the opinion of Montesquieu against that of the abbé.

*Les Siècles Littéraires de la France, &c. Literary Annals of France; or a new historical, critical, and bibliographical Dictionary of all the French Writers, dead or living, down to the Conclusion of the 18th Century. By M. L. M. Dessessarts. 4 Vols. 8vo. Paris.*—The abbé de la Porte, in his work entitled 'France Littéraire,' and M. Ersch, in his three volumes of the French Bibliography, have introduced us to all the French authors, and given a catalogue of the different editions of their works. The names were however imperfect; and our present author has in part corrected the errors, and supplied the imperfections of his predecessors. He might have omitted many writers, who are little known or deserve to be so; but it is the error of biographers to be too copious, and we have given our reasons for sometimes wishing them to be so. The authors, however, who have attained fame in science or literature, who have extended the bounds of human knowledge, are spoken of with care and taste. His opinions respecting those men whose memories are precious to every lover of literature and of their works, are those of an enlightened and impartial inquirer. It is with particular satisfaction we see how little attention he has paid to authors who have transmitted to him their own praises, rather than an account of their lives or writings. We would willingly enlarge on these volumes, if various claims did not prevent us from inserting an article of such extent as a proper examination of the dictionary before us would require. We had selected the life of M. de Guignes as a specimen, and may perhaps, on a future occasion, offer an abstract of it. At present M. Dessessarts must be contented with our general commendations.

*Recherches historiques et critiques, &c. Historical and critical Inquiries on the Man with the Iron Mask, from which is derived certain Information respecting that Prisoner. Drawn from authentic Materials. By M. Roux Fazillac. 8vo.*—The subject



is not yet exhausted. That famous prisoner is neither the duke of Beaufort, nor the count de Vermandois, nor the duke of Monmouth, nor the elder brother of Lewis XIV., but an Italian count, called Mathioli, minister of the duke of Mantua. The proofs of this assertion are taken from the archives of government.

Lewis XIV. wished to open a passage to Italy, on which he had views of conquest. A plan was proposed to the duke of Mantua, by Destrades his ambassador at Venice, to give up the city of Casal. The negotiation was begun with the count Mathioli, the accredited agent of the duke, who went secretly to Paris, concluded the treaty with Pomponne, and was graciously entertained by Lewis, from whom he received a ring and a sum of money, with a promise of a much greater gratification on the conclusion of the treaty. But the count revealed the secret to the court of Turin, to the senate of Venice, as well as to the agents of Austria and Spain—thus frustrating the entire plan. There was not so much required to excite the resentment of Lewis; and the destruction of Mathioli was resolved on. Decoyed to Pignerol by Destrades, he was arrested there by Catinat. Such an open violation of the right of nations must have been kept an inviolable secret. St. Mars, commandant of the prison, was at Pignerol, and was the only one entrusted with it. Mathioli was put under his care, under the name of L'Estant.

The proofs must be read in the work itself. To us they do not appear perfectly conclusive. Every thing, however, which has been said of the man with the iron mask applies exactly to count Mathioli; or at least this hypothesis satisfactorily explains all the circumstances.

*Conspiration Anglaise. English Conspiracy. Vol. I. 8vo. From the Press of the Republic.*—A retort courteous for our demi-official publication of the intercepted letters from Egypt. The English conspiracy is introduced with much pomp; and the tendency of the intercepted letters is ostentatiously displayed. One thing we perceive has not been imitated in the copy—the originals are concealed.

*Paris à la Fin du Dix-huitième Siècle, &c. Paris at the Conclusion of the 18th Century; or a moral and historical Sketch of the Monuments and Ruins in that Capital; of the State of Sciences, Arts, and Industry at that Epoch; and of the Manners and Follies of its Inhabitants. By J. B. Pijoux. 8vo. Paris.*—This is seemingly designed as a continuation of Mercier's famous *Tableau de Paris*, though, like most continuations, it is unequal in humour, but perhaps equally true. It is divided into twenty-eight chapters, which treat of artists, journals, public balls, sign-painters, &c. calculated for a momentary popularity, and aiming at no more.

*Eloge Philosophique de Denis Diderot, &c. Philosophic Eulogy of Denis Diderot, by Eusebius Salverte; read before the National Institute, on the 7th Thermidor, Year VIII. 8vo. Paris.*—A philosophic eulogy! It is well that the author has not styled it a religious one also; for his veneration for Diderot knows no bounds. Admiration and gratitude have contributed equally, M. Salverte tells us, to this truly sublime work; for the writings of the philosopher have been to him a fertile source of pleasure and instruction. The portraits of Voltaire, Rousseau, Montesquieu, &c. precede that of our author's idol; and an analysis of the works of Diderot follows. It may be supposed that he rests with enthusiasm on the *Encyclopédie*—‘a work,’ says he, ‘which will out-live, after twenty centuries, the loss of our history, and every other work written in our language, and will inspire an esteem for our æra beyond what we ourselves can conceive.’ The private life of Diderot concludes this eulogy. The style is elegant, but a little incorrect: indeed, in the passage just quoted, the author says that the *Encyclopédie* will out-live the loss of *all* the works written in our language—that is, out-live itself.

*Œuvres Philosophiques de St. Lambert. Philosophical Works of St. Lambert. 5 Vols. 8vo. Paris.*—This collection contains—1. An analysis of man; 2. Of woman; 3. Of reason; 4. The principles of the manners of every nation, or the universal catechism, with the commentary. These four works are comprised in the first two volumes, and the beginning of the third volume. The remainder of the 3d, with the 4th and 5th volumes, contain an historical analysis of society, or essays on the lives of Bolingbroke and Helvetius; and the Two Friends, an Iroquois tale. Those who possess the first three volumes may purchase the fourth and fifth separately.

## GERMANY.

*Uebersicht der Oekonomischen Pflanzenkultur, &c. A slight View of the Cultivation of Œconomical Plants. By J. G. Reyher, 8vo. Altona.*—This little work is designed for the instruction of the farmer, and treats methodically of the cultivation of land, of meadows, and gardens. The indigenous trees and shrubs of Germany, the useful and the noxious plants and insects, are also pointed out; with the means of destroying the latter. The author advertises a more extensive work on rural œconomy.

*Versuch einer Vollständigen Geschichte Vorzüglicher Holzarten, &c. An Essay towards a complete History of the principal Species of Wood, in a systematic Order. By M. de Burgsdorff. 2 Vols. 4to. Berlin.*—The author treads in the steps of our venerable countryman Evelyn, but moves with peculiar circumspection.



Indeed the vast extent of his plan will, in a great measure, account for his delays. The work is brought at this time to our notice by the conclusion of the second volume, the first part of which was published in 1787; and the first volume appeared three years before.

It is sufficient to observe, that this volume contained the history of the beech-tree; and the second that of the oak. The first part of the second volume treats, in four memoirs, of the names, the country, and the constitution of oaks; of their plantation, culture, natural and accidental properties. The second part, just published, relates to the use of the oak, and the methods of working and applying it, either to building or the arts. Each species described is accompanied with an account of its length, the marks of its goodness, its advantages, and its price in the Prussian dominions. The author next considers the use of the juice, bark, leaves, flowers, fruits, &c. of the oak. The next memoir (the second of this part) treats of the value and the use of the different sections. The extent of the work we cannot guess at. We may pronounce it instructive; but it is tedious in the extreme.

*Walthers F. L. Lehrbuch der Forstphysiographie, &c. The Physiography of Forests, or the Natural History of Animals, Plants, and Minerals, which are the Objects of the Forester and the Hunter. By F. L. Walther. 8vo. Hadamar.*—There are few works on the subject so comprehensive as this before us, which is said to be a syllabus of the author's public lectures. The first part only is contained in the present volume, viz. what relates to animals; and of these we find little more than the generic and specific characters, the author reserving the minuter details for the lectures. The definitions are clear and precise, but in the German language; and the Latin systems, with the names of the classes, orders, genera, and species, are translated also into German. The systematic table is preceded by some general and theoretical observations. M. Walther has separated the cryptogamous animals from the sixth class of Linnaeus's system; and formed a particular association, which he has styled cryptorgana. It is divided into four orders, comprehending the plant-animals, the animal-plants, the intermediate beings, and the microscopic animals. A list of the principal works on the subject is subjoined.

*La Cépède's Naturgeschichte. La Cépède's Natural History of Amphibia: translated from the French by J. M. Bechstein. 2 Vols. 8vo. Weimar.*—We notice this translation only, to remark that the translator has made many additions from the works of Schneider, Schoepf, Walbaum, Edwards, and Dorndoff. The whole will be comprised in five volumes; and to the last

will be added an abridgement of the physiology of the amphibia, a new classification, and a synopsis of these animals.

*Suckows G. A. Anfangsgründe, &c. Elements of the Natural History of Animals, theoretical and practical. By G. A. Suckow. 2 Vols. 8vo. Leipsic.*—This is a short abridgement of natural history, which, however, contains more than from its contracted limits we might expect. The first volume comprises the natural history of animals; and the second, the two first orders of land-birds, the birds of prey, and the picæ. In another section (for this is only the first) the other birds will be described, and in another volume the insects and the worms. The new observations, which could not be inserted in the body of the work, will be added.

*Gesundheits-Taschenbuch, &c. Manual of Health for the Year 1801. By a Society of Physicians at Vienna. 8vo. Vienna.*—Vienna was, under the guidance of Van Swieten, De Haen, and Stoll, a respectable seminary of medicine. We are sorry to see, from a perusal of the present collection, that it can no longer merit such a title. The collection indeed relates chiefly to the hygiene—the methods of preserving health; but it is deformed by some of the most trifling fancies and erroneous doctrines that we have lately perused. Dr. Frank first gives the life of Brown, with an explanation of his system; and this is followed by an account of inoculation for the cow-pox, by Dr. de Carro. The third article is an inquiry into the causes of the great number of hecticis in large cities, and particularly Vienna, with the means of curing them, by Dr. M. Schmid. The fourth, on the present dress of women, and its influence on their health, by Dr. Frank. Commentaries on the ideas of treatment of cure, by J. A. Schmid; observations on the influence of heat and cold in the preservation of health and the cure of diseases, by Dr. Werner; on the influence of smells on the human body, by Dr. Cappellini; and on the pretended preservatives, taken in spring, follow. M. Wagner communicates what he styles a fragment of a regimen for winter; and M. J. Malfatti adds some remarks on the influence of the custom of bleeding and purging. The eleventh article is a singular history of a person who had a hole in his stomach, visible externally, and who nevertheless enjoyed a good state of health; and the twelfth is on the mortality of the hospital at Vienna, by M. Frank.

*System der practischen Heilkunde. A System of practical Medicine. By C. W. Hufeland. Part I. 8vo. Jena.*—We have received very favorable impressions of the present work, which is intended as a syllabus to the author's lectures; and may be able to notice it more at large when a greater portion is before us. The volume before us relates to general therapeutics. The effects of remedies, and the symptoms of diseases, he professes



to deduce from the phænomena of organic life ; and the deficiencies are supplied by observation and experience.

*Ueber die Zweckmaässigkeit Einrichtung der Fild Hospitäler. On the most convenient Arrangement of Field Hospitals. By Dr. G. P. Michaëlis, late Field Physician in the Electoral Brunswick Lunenburg Service. With a Plate. 8vo. Göttingen. 1801.*

—We fully agree with the author, that this subject is too much neglected in the ‘ piping times of peace.’ It should be remembered (*absit tamen*) that war may again return ; and we should not be unprepared, especially in regulations so necessary and so essential. Wherever an army exists, regulations for the maintenance of the diseased and wounded should exist also, and be ready on the first beginning of hostile operations. M. Michaëlis seems to think that the practice of physic and surgery would be most conveniently divided in the military hospitals ; but, in the actual conduct of such hospitals, the officers could not be properly separated.

The first part relates to the arrangement of hospitals ; to the ambulatory, depôt, and chief hospitals ; and to the inferior circumstances requisite in the conduct of such institutions. The second part relates to the maintenance of patients ; and the third to the persons belonging to the hospitals, and to their direction. On the whole, we cannot approve of some parts of our author’s advice : it may perhaps be adapted to German customs and German constitutions. They could not, without many modifications, be admitted in the English army.

*Darstellung der Sären, Alkalien, Erden, und Metalle. An Explanation of Acids, Alkalis, Earths, and Metals ; of their Combinations and elective Affinities. In Twelve Tables. By J. B. Trommsdorff. Folio. Erfurt.*—The author published, about two years since, a more imperfect edition of the present tables, which are now corrected in many respects, but are still, we think, unaccountably incomplete. It is singular, for instance, that his tables of elective attractions, which are perhaps the best part of the work, should be confined to those in the dry way ; that the triple and quadruple salts should be omitted, as well as the double affinities. He introduces the formic suberic acids, &c. but excludes that of camphor. Among the earths, not only the glucine of Vauquelin is omitted, but, more strangely, the agustine, discovered by himself. As if also weary of his labour, we find only the names of the metallic salts.

*Anleitung zur Hydrodynamick. Elements of Hydrodynamics. By G. Vega. With Nine Plates. 8vo. Vienna.*—Though this is of itself a distinct and complete work, it in reality forms the fourth volume of the author’s *Elements of Mathematics* ; the three first of which appeared in the years 1782, 1784, and

1788 respectively. It is sufficient, at so great a distance from the time of their publication, to observe, that the first treats of arithmetic and finite quantities; the second of geometry, of the differential and integral calculus, with their application to geometry; the third of mechanics.

In the present volume, M. de Vega explains the principles of hydrostatics, of aërostatics, hydraulics, and the motions of solid bodies in a resisting medium. The work appears to us to merit considerable commendation, and is particularly estimable for the clearness of the definitions, the spirit and precision of the analysis, and the accuracy of the calculations.

*Berthold Schwartz der Pulverer-finder. Berthold Schwartz, Inventor of Gunpowder, a Historical Romance. 2 Vols. 8vo. Hamburg.*—We do not notice the romances of the continent, unless we find some of peculiar interest or singular novelty. Berthold Schwartz is not very eminent in either, but possesses enough of both to induce us to allot to him a few lines. This famous monk was at first named, after his father, Constantine Angklizen; and his adventures are related in a style rich in imagery, but somewhat too poetical. The author mixes with these a philosophical view of the events, opinions, and manners of the fourteenth century, or rather has adopted the life of Berthold as their vehicle. This period, so highly praised, is stripped of its imaginary charms; and the boasted age of chivalry is described as scarcely emerging from a state of barbarity, under the dominion of ignorance and superstition. His erudition and philosophy, for the author possesses both, are conveyed in agreeable and, not unfrequently, in animated language; but the work is not concluded; for we leave Berthold, yet young, at the battle of Cressy. We have reason to think that, when the author speaks of his work as the continuation of the life of Faustus, it is rather the trick of the bookseller. It must mean that Berthold is in the same style; for, if we are not misinformed, we are indebted for the present work to the same pen from which we received the *Sagen der Vorzeit*, or the Traditions of past Times.

*Adelstans Jovialisch-politische Reise durch Italien, &c. The Jovial and Political Travels of Adelstan in Italy, during the Campaigns of Bonaparte. 2 Vols.*—Fielding called the *Odyssey* ‘the poem of good eating;’ and this may be styled ‘the romance of drinking.’ Adelstan had laid a wager of a thousand guineas with an English lord, that it is possible, in passing through countries where the vine is cultivated, to find every evening a new kind. The period however is not fixed. Adelstan attempts to execute this wild project; but the political events detain him so long, that he is still at Naples. The tour is designed to terminate at Cyprus.



*G. Ch. Lichtenbergs Vermischte Schriften. Miscellaneous Works of G. Ch. Lichtenberg. Published after his Death by L. C. Lichtenberg and Fr. Kries. 2 Vols. Göttingen.*—The miscellaneous works of Lichtenberg were lately published at Bareuth; but these contain the hitherto inedited pieces of this singular author. Many are unfinished; and we shall only transcribe a passage or two.

‘Hypochondria is the talent of drawing from each event of our lives the greatest quantity of poison for our own use.’

‘People in general lose by the combat of the flesh against the spirit;—the man of letters by the combat of the spirit against the flesh.’

‘The difference between the man of the world and the man of letters consists only in a species of perception, or in the art of making a book.’

### HUNGARY AND TRANSYLVANIA.

*Jacobi Josephi Winterl Prolusiones ad Chemiam Sæculi 19. Introduction to the Chemistry of the Nineteenth Century. 8vo. Buda.*—This work, we have reason to believe, is not to be purchased. We are informed that seventy copies only have been printed, and presented to different chemists. From one of these gentlemen the copy from which this account is taken is derived.

The great object of the author, who, by the way, considers the century to have begun in the year 1800, is to announce the discovery of a new earth, universally diffused, which he calls *andronia*. Thus, barytes is a compound of lead and *andronia*; steel is iron saturated with *andronia*; molybdæna of copper, kali of lime, and tin of tungsten, with the same earth respectively. Tin however is supposed to contain a third substance hitherto unknown. On this subject we can offer no opinion, because the author gives no leading experiments to elucidate the discovery, but appears anxious only to raise a system on it. We must therefore wait till he choose to explain himself more fully.

*Ambrosii Simigiani Historia Rerum Hungaricarum et Transylvanicarum, &c. Ambrose Simigianus's History of Hungary and Transylvania, from the Year 1490 to 1606, in Four Books, with Notes. Edited by Jos. C. Elder. Book I. 4to. Hermanstadt.*—The name of the author, stripped of its Latin form, is Ambrose Snornogyi: he was the notary of count de Snolnoz, and obliged, by the entry of the imperial troops, to quit his retreat at Dës, and retire to Bistritz, where he employed himself on the present work. He has not, in any part of the ancient history, quoted his authorities, so that we cannot appreciate the value of his information. With respect to the more recent events in Transylvania, he was an eye-witness, and often actively engaged in them. Much of the ancient history we find copied from Jovius;

and we must remember that the author was the decided enemy of the Germans, or rather of the Austrians, whom he considered as the oppressors of his country.

M. Eder has accompanied each chapter with notes and observations, in which he has endeavoured to supply the omissions or imperfections of Snornogyi; so that the present work will be a valuable history of Transylvania, from the year 1527.

These additions have been printed faithfully from the originals; even the archives, and the numbers in which they occur, have been pointed out. The editor's religious impartiality is accurately kept up. It is remarked with justice, and he proves, that, from the year 1527, the race styled the *Saxon*, in Transylvania, has always been the active partisans of the house of Austria. The present volume extends only to 1541, and will not be very interesting to modern readers.

### SWITZERLAND.

*Salomon Gessners Briefwechsel mit seinem Sohn. The Correspondence of S. Gessner with his Son. 8vo. Berne.*—We insert this solitary volume, almost the only publication of Switzerland in a period of no little extent—if we except political ones. Such is the unfortunate state of this once literary country! such the consequences of French protection! The letters before us relate chiefly to the fine arts, and were written from the year 1784 to 1788, while his son, a distinguished artist, resided at Rome.

The editor, Gessner's second son, remarks that this correspondence was not designed for public view, and should be considered only as the conversation of a father with a son on the fine arts, and the means of cultivating them. The letters have not been corrected; they are characteristic of the author; and furnish a portrait from his own hands.

S. Gessner has left a large collection of designs and studies from nature, in a greater or less degree of perfection, which will be published by his son.

### HOLLAND.

*A. Ypey Introductio in Materiam Medicam. Introduction to the Materia Medica. 8vo. Leiden.*—Our author has been less anxious to display his erudition than to give solid information. Though confined, in the title, to the *Materia Medica*, he mixes pathological observations and remarks, founded on practical experience. The description of the plants used in medicine is very exact, though, in this respect, he falls short of the minute accuracy of Bergius in one view, and of Murray in another; yet, on the whole, mistakes are guarded against with sufficient care. Specifics are considered with great attention;



and the directions for their use are given with a scrupulous caution. Why have not we a work of real merit on this subject in our own language?

*Gerardi Sandifort Tabulæ Anatomicae. Anatomical Tables. Large Folio. Leiden.*—The anatomical labours of the Sandiforts are well known, and this is not an unworthy scion from a respectable stock. The present collection will contain probably the morbid changes in the state of the body; and the two plates, of which the present number consists, represent an aneurysm of the internal iliac artery, which produced symptoms of nervous sciatica. The drawings, we perceive, are by the author; and the engravings are very neatly executed. No time is fixed for the appearance of the succeeding numbers.

*C. Plinii Cæciliæ secundi Epistolarum Libri decem. Pliny's Epistles, with Notes. By G. E. Gierig. Vol. I. Amsterdam.*—Pliny's Epistles are not with us a very favourite work; and perhaps more labour has been bestowed on them than was necessary. The edition of Gesner was sufficiently satisfactory in every respect. Having, however, looked over the present volume, we must admit its superiority to Gesner's edition, as well as to that of Korte, which preceded it. The difficult passages are better explained, and the characters introduced more satisfactorily developed. The editor has endeavoured to ascertain with precision the sense of his author, and pointed out his defects as well as his beauties. He has added various philological observations, and the contents of those letters which were not so miscellaneous as to prohibit an abstract.

The dissertation prefixed to this volume, *De Plinii Epistolis*, is designed to show the influence of the classical authors on the moral characters of youth. The editor published an essay of this kind about two years since, on 'the Life, the moral Character and Literary Merit of the Younger Pliny,' in which he has attempted to prove, though we think with little success, that these letters contain a method, not difficult in practice, of rendering the manners of society more perfect and correct. The dissertation prefixed to the present volume is followed by a chronological view of the life of Pliny, from Mason; and the prolegomena are concluded by a literary abstract of the manuscripts and editions quoted in the notes. The present volume contains the first five books, and is accompanied by a plate of the model of Pliny's villa, drawn by Krubsacius, an architect at Dresden.

## ITALY.

*Ricerche sulle Cause, et sugli Effetti del Vajulo, &c. Inquiries into the Causes and Effects of the Small-Pox of Cows, known by the Name of the Cow-Pox, by Dr. Jenner. Accompanied with Notes, and the Relation of the Small-Pox observed among the Cows of Lombardy. By Dr. Luigi Careno. 12mo. Pavia.*—We had determined to pass, unnoticed, the various publications on the cow-pox on the continent, as it was the same tale repeated, *ad fastidium usque*; yet we have altered our resolution with respect to this work, that we might extend the knowledge of a striking anomaly, or give occasion to the explanation of some error.

Dr. Careno of Vienna published some time since a Latin translation of the works of Dr. Jenner and Dr. Pearson; and the present volume is an Italian version of the same tracts. To this is added an account of a variolic eruption often observed on the udders of cows in Lombardy. It appears that the cows of Italy are exposed to this disease but once in their lives; that they even communicate it to other cows, who have not been before affected with it, but *not* to children who have *not* had the small-pox. It cannot therefore be employed for the inoculation of the vaccine.

*Della Economia Fisica degli Antichi nel costruire le Città. On the Physical Economy of the Ancients in the Structure of their Cities. By Gaetano of Angora. 8vo.*—The present work is little known beyond the confines of Italy, and we cannot pay it the attention it merits; for the author renders an abstruse subject interesting; and, from the learning displayed in the illustrations, it becomes also instructive.

Our author considers, first, the general motives for the establishment of cities, and, when the population has become too numerous, the conduct of those who guide the emigrants or the colonists. These are the subjects of the introduction, which are expanded in the work itself. In the first chapter he treats of the investigation of springs and rivers, and of attempts to render sea-water potable. Contrary to the opinion of Vitruvius, he maintains that the discovery of springs has contributed more to social life than that of fire. This he proves by the existence of some hordes of savages who are not yet acquainted with fire. The indispensable necessity of water has, he thinks, occasioned many quarrels, and may have frequently been the origin of war. The denominations of many cities



contribute to support his hypothesis. The means of discovering springs is the subject of the rest of the chapter; and the second relates to the quality of the air, the temperature of the climate, and the winds. For the characters of a salubrious climate, the author refers to Pliny. The third, fourth, and fifth chapters are more interesting, as they combine modern discoveries with the ancient doctrines drawn from Pliny and Vitruvius. They relate to the causes of the alteration of climates, the infection of the atmosphere, and the means of remedying it, as well as of precautions to be observed in the choice of soil.

Roads, ports, walks, and public places, furnish numerous observations for the seventh chapter. The roads were always directed towards the cardinal points; and the ports were well chosen, because, in the coasting navigation of the ancients, every bay and its advantages were known. Brundisium, Carthage, and Alexandria, were constructed by the ancients; and light-houses were generally established. The construction of piers, as an artificial security, followed. At Ostia and Civita Vecchia we find some ancient remains of this kind. The public places and markets were usually covered, surrounded by galleries also covered. The stations or asylums for the poor were furnished with benches, couches, fire-places, and other conveniences. They were in time frequented by others also, and then were styled *scolæ*, in which warm liquors were sold, as in the thermopolia, an establishment not unlike our coffee-houses. These *scolæ* soon gave place to hospitals, which were built near the temples, and became sacred asylums. The sick, who recovered, left accounts of their diseases and remedies, from which tablets our author supposes that Pliny and Hippocrates derived a great share of their medical knowledge.

The two last chapters treat of the interior distribution of the houses, the furniture, &c. with the methods of keeping the cities clean. The ancients generally inhabited the ground floors, not to be obliged to mount the stair-cases, which were often uncovered, and to be near the galleries and entrances. The houses were separate, so as to be better ventilated, and in less danger of fire. Our author thinks that the ancients knew the property of pointed rods to guard against the effects of thunder. We shall pass over minuter arrangements, to speak of other methods of keeping the streets clean. The streets were raised like our causeways, with ditches on each side to carry off impurities; and religion came in aid of cleanliness, by rendering the person impure who had touched a dead body or any thing putrid. The same impressions led them to remove from the city every manufacture which could cause impurities, or produce disagreeable

miasmata; as tanners, curriers, &c. The places of interment were hills or distant caverns; and the law of the twelve tables, 'ne quis hominem in urbe sepeliret, neve ureret,' was extended by Adrian through every Roman city, with the exception only of famous men, of vestals, and emperors.

*Dionis Cassii Historiarum Romanarum Fragmenta, cum novis earundem Lectionibus. A Jacobo Morellio, nunc primum edita.* Bassano.—The eighty books of Dio Cassius's Roman History have been greatly corrupted and mutilated by the copyists, who have sometimes omitted details that they thought too long, sometimes whole passages which appeared to them superfluous and uninteresting. The best editions, therefore, which are those of Robert Stephanus and Reimarus, who had collated the MSS. in the Vatican and Florence libraries, are still defective and imperfect in a great degree. The library of Venice, however, contained a copy, whose merit had escaped even Bongiovani and Zanetti; for they only mention its title in their index of the MSS. of the Venetian library.

It was reserved for the learned librarian Morelli to enrich ancient literature with this new discovery. Having learned that M. J. A. Penzel was preparing in Germany a new edition of Dio Cassius, to which these fragments would be a valuable supplement, he inserted a description of the manuscript, and an account of its value in the preface.

The manuscript appears to be of the eleventh century, and begins towards the middle of the forty-fourth book, at the thirty-sixth line of the forty-fourth page of Reimarus, and finishes with the sixtieth book, p. 965, line 93. It would render the Florentine edition complete, which leaves off at the end of the fiftieth book, as well as that of the Vatican, which concludes at the fifty-fourth. It contains many various readings hitherto unknown; but its principal merit consists in the fragments which supply the deficiencies in the fifty-fifth book, one of the most imperfect of the whole. These supply the hiatus in the edition of Reimarus.

The first fragment treats of the temple of Mars raised by Augustus, of the games and spectacles given at Rome and Naples, and of the other events of the year 752, A. U. C. The second relates chiefly to the enterprises of D. Ænobarbus against the Marcomanni and other nations on the Rhine, to the changes in the government of Armenia, to the deaths of Caius and Lucius, the adopted sons of Augustus, and to the other events of the years 754 and 5. Morelli has given a Latin version of these two fragments, with some notes, which display considerable erudition.



*Analecta Critica in Anthologiam Græcam, cum Supplemento Epigrammatum maximam Partem ineditorum, collegit J. G. Huschke.* 8vo. Jena.—M. Jacobs, to whom we are indebted for new editions of Brunck's *Analecta*, with commentaries and various elucidations of different kinds, has communicated to the editor a collection of pleasing Greek epigrams, hitherto inedited, with several published subsequent to Brunck's *Analecta* and critical remarks. The work commences by critical *analecta*, in which the author again examines some epigrams commented on by others, proposes some new readings, with philosophical, critical, and historical observations.

The new collection commences at page 190, and the greater number is satirical. Some have been preserved entire: of others there are fragments only. The volume concludes with a double table—1. of the inedited epigrams and other pieces; 2. of authors commented on, of words, and things.

*Del Luogo natale di Virgilio, &c. Of the Birth-place of Virgil, a Memoir of L. Casali.* 4to. Mantua.—The ancients have uniformly said that Virgil was born at Andes; for this place the marquis Maffei has sought in the Veronese, in the environs of Cavriana and Volta. The historian Visi supposed it to be at Rivalta, seven leagues from Mantua. The present author endeavours to show that each is in an error, and that the ancient Andes is the modern Pietole. This is not a new opinion; but the sentiments of the authors first mentioned had so much weight, as to occasion some hesitation in the minds of Italian antiquaries, which signor Casali has endeavoured to remove, not altogether without success.

*Parnasso degl' Italiani viventi, &c. The Parnassus of living Italian Poets.* 6 Vols. 8vo.—This series has been continued after different intervals, and is, in general, respectable from the choice of the authors, and the merit of the selections. We cannot particularise every bard who adorns this bouquet, but shall enumerate a few of the most eminent, and the latest.

The first three volumes contain the poems of Lorenzo Pignotti, the Italian La Fontaine, whose fables and other poems have passed through from eighteen to twenty editions, in Italy. Of these volumes, the first comprises his pieces which are already known, together with six others which had never before made their appearance. The second comprehends some additional fables, a beautiful ode, and an imitation of a novel of Voltaire's, entitled *The Three Manners*. In the third, the editor has collected all the other poems of Pignotti. Among the latter, we have particularly noticed a beautiful poem, entitled *La Tomba di Shakspeare*, *The Tomb of Shakspeare*, and a good imitation of the second epistle of the second book of Horace.

The poems of Savioli were at first received with a general en-

thusiasm, which by degrees, however, diminished, when it was discovered that they were artificial rather than sentimental, and displayed a deeper knowledge of mythology than genuine fervor of poetic genius. Savioli had his imitators, who shared the same fate; and, though numerous, they were soon forgotten. As usual, the critics were in the opposite extreme; and Savioli was considered as a very moderate poet, without reflecting that his odes were possessed of very considerable merit: but the unpardonable sin was, that, in his songs of love, he did not seem to feel like Petrarch. The editor of the Parnassus has not caught the general disgust; but has selected, in one of these volumes, many of his best productions.

We find, in the fourth volume, sixteen Anacreontic odes, and one hundred sonnets of Rossi. The latter are too numerous to be uniformly good; and, in reality, we find few, if any of them, above mediocrity.

*Rossi's Scherze.*

<p>‘ Nella stagion gradita Che il frutto al fior succede, Dolce desio l’invita, E là rivoglie il piede. Ma quando ella s’appressa A quella pianta stessa, Attonita rimira,</p>	<p>Che carca è sol di fronde, E piange, e se n’adira: E il giardinier risponde: Bramavi i frutti, o Dori? Perche cogliesti i fiori?’</p>
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This edition is very correct, well printed, and adorned with some beautiful plates. The editor is Dr. Rosini, of Padua, who declares in his advertisement that he will print only what the different poets please to communicate, or what they allow him to select from their works.

*Epigrammi morali di Giuseppe Maria Pagnani, Carmelitano. Moral Epigrams of Joseph Maria Pagnani, a Carmelite. 8vo. Parma.*—Our author is little known beyond Italy, where he ranks with literary characters of the first eminence. Yet perhaps his admirers judge of him with some partiality, when they style him ‘a very great philologist;’ a ‘famous teacher of belles lettres;’ a ‘copious orator;’ an ‘elegant poet,’ &c. We have always considered him as a happy translator, rather than a poet of originality and genius: and he seems to have succeeded best in his translations from the Greek. With a flowery style and an easy versification, he often wants that warmth of sentiment which inspires the poet and entrances the reader. We might bring some instances from the present collection, but shall prefer transcribing two epigrams, which are perhaps among the best:

‘ Tutti fanni i grammatici  
Il verbo “amare” attivo;  
Ma que’ che s’inamorano  
Lo trovano passivo.’



‘ Bindo, se un crin perdesse a ogni bugia,  
Calva la testa in men d’un anno avria.’

The author promises, in his preface, a translation of Greek epigrams, in which we have little doubt of his success.

*Saggio di Versi estemporanei d’Amarilli Etrusca.*

*Odi tre di Teresa Bandettini tra gli Arcadi Amarilli Etrusca.*

*A Collection of extemporaneous Verses of Amaryllis of Tuscany.*  
8vo. Pisa.

*Three Odes of Teresa Bandettini, &c.* 4to. Lucca.—Signora Bandettini is distinguished among the improvisatori of Italy, by the originality of her genius, the richness of her imagination, and an expression equally just and agreeable. Proofs of each quality occur in the two collections before us.

The first contains six improvisi, which owe their origin to friendship. They are entitled—1. The Flight of Clelia; 2. The Wars of the Giants; 3. The Death of Hercules; 4. The Meeting of Petrarc and Laura in the Church; 5. The Lamentation of Clizia; and 6. Pygmalion. The three first pieces are in *ottave rime*, the others in anacreontics. The fourth is full of those tender images which might, without disadvantage, place it beside those of Rossi.

The odes in the second collection are on the naval victory of Nelson in Egypt; on the victories of Souworof in Italy; and on those of the archduke Charles. The first of these works is printed by Bondoni with all his usual brilliancy and elegance.

## RUSSIA.

*Historisch-Statistisches Gemælde des Russischen Reichs, &c. An Historical and Statistical View of the Empire of Russia, at the End of the Eighteenth Century.* By H. Storch. 4 Vols. 8vo. Petersburg.—This work differs both from Mr. Tooke’s and M. Georgi’s, though it approaches more nearly to the former than the latter work. M. Georgi confines himself to a geographical and philosophical description of the Russian empire. Our present author treats exclusively of the condition of the inhabitants, both as it regards statistics and the interior administration.

In the first two volumes, the author points out the civil state of the inhabitants of Russia; and in the third he traces the progress of Russian industry. The introduction to this volume describes the arts as passing successively from Greece to Novogorod and Kiew, which were destroyed by the Mongûls, and again re-established by Ivan I and II, and Alexis Michaelowitz. The author then gives a view of all the manufactures furnished by Russia in 1674, adding what had been done by Peter the Great, Catharine II, and Paul I.

What relates to the present state of industry in the Russian empire is divided into three sections. The first relates to the

particular occupations of the inhabitants of the country. These are not agricultural only, but the manufacture of corn, oil, and sawing-mills, the preparation of tar, pot-ash, nitre, soap, leather, caviare, and isinglass. To these are added the means of encouraging and extending the different branches of national industry.

In the second section he speaks of trades, and the measures taken by Catharine to raise their importance, in giving them stability and independence. He estimates those who live by trade to be about 350,000 in the whole empire. This section concludes with some considerations on the want of labourers in Russia, particularly in the working of metals.

The third section is devoted to manufactures of different kinds, which are classed under forty-five heads. In the second part of this section our author examines the following questions: Whether it be advantageous to Russia to have manufactures? What branches should have the preference? and, What means of encouragement should the government employ?

The fourth volume contains a particular account of the commerce of Russia, from the remotest æra to the time of Peter the Great. The periods are, 1. From the foundation of the empire to the establishment of the first board of commerce; 2. From that time to the re-establishment of the route of commerce across the Black Sea, in 1553, by English navigators; 3. To the acquisition of the shores of the Baltic, in 1703. The two parts which form the history of this æra contain the history of the Russian commerce on the White Sea, the Baltic, the Caspian, and the Euxine; the establishment of the two commercial cities Wologda and Jaroslow; the discovery and conquest of Siberia; the origin of the commerce with China; and the period of the construction of vessels at Woronesch and at Archangel.

The volume is concluded by a statistical view of the commerce of Russia during the second part of the seventeenth century, under the reign of Alexis Michaelowitz. We may, of course, expect the continuation; but we have reason to apprehend that it is not very near. We find the last volume, which is intended for a supplement, will contain an account of the changes that have occurred during the impression, the observations collected by the author, a descriptive catalogue of all the works, charts, ukases, &c. employed; with a chronological table of important events. As M. Georgi's work is not common, this volume is introduced by a geographical abstract of the empire of Russia, and some observations on the orthography of Russian names.

There is, we find, a French translation printed at Basle, said to be a very correct one. This is illustrated by a chart of the whole Russian empire, and another of European Russia.

*J. Reinig's Historische Topographische Beschreibung des Kaukasus. A Historical and Topographical Description of Caucasus,*



by J. Reinigg. *Collected from his Manuscripts, by E. Schræder. 2 Vols. 8vo. With Plates and Charts.* Petersburg.—Caucasus, so celebrated in ancient and modern geography, is one of the primitive mountains of the old continent, which stretches its branches through Asia, and whose population, unlike other mountains, is so numerous, that it is supposed to furnish 600,000 men capable of bearing arms. The Caucasian nations differ in manners and language, but resemble each other in bravery, independence, contempt of civilisation, and activity. Like the Arabs of the Desert, their time is divided between war and inactivity; nor would the last be interrupted, but for the desire of plunder. From the general resemblance in disposition, they might be taken for the same race; but their features and language differ, so that they must certainly be different tribes, whose origin is lost in the remotest antiquity.

The author visited these people five different times. Possessed of a spirit of observation, and acquainted with many of their dialects, he had an opportunity of collecting much new information. He assumed also the appearance of a Mahometan, and practised physic—two circumstances which procured him access to the principal people, and removed all restraint.

On his return to Petersburg, where he enjoyed the office of counsellor of state, and perpetual secretary of the Imperial College of Medicine, he employed his leisure hours in collecting and arranging his materials, and completing his description of Caucasus and its inhabitants—the result of his numerous visits. Death however checked his labour; but his papers passed into the hands of M. Schræder, who has published them with great care, and enriched them with his own observations and some additions.

The work contains much curious information respecting the topography of Caucasus, the government, manners, languages, and religion of its inhabitants. There are few remarks on natural history; not that the author was inattentive to the subject; but we are informed, in the introduction to the second volume, that this part of the manuscript could not be found.

Another manuscript, which has been preserved by the successors of the author, relates to the opinion, that we may yet discover in the Crimea, and along the shores of the Euxine, the descendants of the ancient Goths, whose language has some analogy with the Low Saxon or German. We may find them very certainly in Saxony, Germany, and almost every part of Europe; but the dissertation is curious, and it occurs in the second volume, with the life of M. Reinigg, compiled by Gerstenberg.

The map of Caucasus is drawn by the author, and corrected by himself and lieutenant-colonel Thorzon. A copy of this, with one of the manuscripts, was presented to prince Potemkin, in the possession of whose descendants it may still remain: the original

was communicated to the editors by lieutenant-colonel Thorzon. We may be tempted, on a future occasion, to give a fuller account of this work; but we wish to see it in the English language.

### SWEDEN.

*Kongl Vetenskaps Academicus nya Hadlingar, &c. New Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences at Stockholm. Vol. XX. Of the Year 1799. 4to. Stockholm.*—We have said, that we must resign every pretension to an extensive account of the memoirs of foreign academies, if we except only those of France. We do it however from necessity only, and with regret—a regret which we feel more acutely on turning over this interesting volume. The only consolation which we feel is, that some of the more important memoirs will occur to us in other collections.

Our readers may recollect—for the labours of this respectable society are not new in our annals—that the annual volume is divided into four parts, each, from its period, styled *trimestre*. The first contains seven memoirs. 1. On the determination of currents at sea, or a method of finding, while under sail, at three different periods and in three different places, the direction of a current by a signal from the shore. 2. Observations on M. Plouquet's method of determining, from the appearance of the lungs, whether a child has breathed. 3. A description of a pellicule (*pterygium*) attached to the eye from the birth, by J. G. Pipping. 4. Two cases produced by rheumatic affections, fatal in their consequences, by C. M. Blom. 5. Observations on the tourmalin, by A. Modeer. 6. A description of some new species of Swedish insects, by J. Paykul. One of these is the *dysticus*, of which the author has described twenty-seven species, unknown to Linnæus in his *Fauna Suecica*. He has promised to publish the continuation of his discoveries in these memoirs. 7. On the effects which manual labour can produce, applied to machines moved with handles, by J. E. Norberg.

The second trimestre contains eight memoirs. 1. Experiments on living queen bees, by G. Adlermark. 2. A description of a new species of nutmeg from Ceylon and Java, by Thunberg. *Myristica glomerata, foliis oblongis acuminatis subtus tomentosis, floribus masculis, glomerato-capitatis.* 3. *Lampris*, a new species of fish described by A. J. Retzius, unknown to Linnæus and Block, but described by Pennant, Sibbrand, Stroem, Duhamel, Brunnich, and La Cépède. Brunnich calls it *Zeus guttatus*, and classes it among the *abdominales*—‘*Os edentulum; maxillis mediis; lingua carnosâ latâ; membranâ branchiostegâ radiis sex; foramen longum pone pinnas pectorales; sternum osseum.*’ 4. Longitudes and latitudes of different places in Sweden, determined by astronomical and chronometrical observations, by N. G. Schulten. 5. Continuation of the description of new insects, by J. Paykul. 6. Extracts from a



meteorological journal, kept at Umea, in 1798, by D. E. Naezen.  
 7. A description of some polypi of the lungs, by E. Acharius.  
 8. Some new species of insects, described from his own collection, by S. J. Ljungh; viz. *scarabæus marmon*, *crysomela bivittata*, *cicindela varians*, *papilio brigitta*.

The third trimestre contains comparative tables of births and deaths which occurred in Sweden and Finland from 1771 to 1795, by H. Nicander. 2. A species of aphrodita, described by Modeer. 3. A method of finding curves, by means of analytic expressions of their tangents, No. I. 4. Botanical observations, and a description of a *spargula stricta*, a Swedish plant hitherto unknown, by Olof Swartz, accompanied with a plate.

The fourth contains a continuation of the tables of mortality; from which it appears that the population of Sweden increased, in this period, 15 in every 100. 2. A description of some improvements, applicable to vessels employed in distilling water, by J. E. Norberg. 3. Relation of a journey, undertaken at the expense of the academy of Pello, to examine whether the measure of a degree of the meridian, taken in 1739 by Maupertuis and other French philosophers, was exact, by J. Svanberg. The result is not very favorable to their predecessors' accuracy. 4. Extracts of astronomical observations, made in the observatory of Stockholm in 1799, by J. Svanberg. 5. Extract of meteorological observations made at Upsal during the year 1799, by D. E. Holmquist. The volume terminates, as usual, by lists of works and natural objects presented to the society.

*Forsoek om Skaldekonsten, &c. An Essay on the Art of Poetry, in four Cantos; followed by Remarks on the Swedish Versification. By the Count de Gyllenborg.* Stockholm.—Our author is the patriarch of Swedish versification. Half a century is elapsed since the count and Creutz began to enrich Sweden with poetical compositions, which could vie with those of other polished nations. Such are the superiority and influence of these bards, that their works are still read as models of good style in that language. Gyllenborg has exercised his talents in many different lines. In the epic, in tragedy, and descriptive poetry, he has not attained the highest rank—*nervi deficiunt animique*: the spirit which should support the whole seems soon to flag. But in the lighter walks, where taste and good sense are chiefly requisite, he is excellent. His didactic satires, his philosophical odes, and his fables, merit our highest commendations.

The present poem is of this superior kind. The first canto treats of the general rules of poetry; the second and third of the different kinds, and their progress in different countries. In the fourth, he assigns to reason, to taste, and genius, their different offices. It may be observed, that he modestly calls his work an *Essay on the Art of Poetry*.

The count often imitates the grave good sense of Boileau, and the concise style of Pope, whom he calls the Homer of philosophy. But his own theory will not satisfy the philosopher. The definitions and classification proposed in the preface are vague and arbitrary.

The remarks on versification form the subject of a pamphlet, owing to a particular quarrel, which the author should not have raised into such importance as to give it a place in the art of poetry.

*Stokholm. 2 Volumes. 8vo.* Stokholm.—Not long since a description of the city of Copenhagen was published by professor Nyrup; and, perhaps from the rivalry formerly noticed, the present author (M. Elers) now presents us with an account of the capital of Sweden. For this purpose he has united whatever the archives of the kingdom, public and private collections, could furnish; and though something may be deficient in historical accuracy and elegance of style, yet the work is amply rich in materials for the future historian.

Enough is already known of the situation and topography of Stokholm, the subject of the introduction. We shall speak rather of our author's account of the city and the castle.

The founder of the capital of Sweden is unknown. The æra is from about 1250 to 1260; and the habitations seem to have been first occupied under K. Knut, the son of Eric the Holy. About seventy years afterwards Birger Jarl introduced agriculture into Sweden, surrounded the city with walls, and built the castle. In the second and third chapters we find the progressive improvements described; but it was only in the reign of Gustavus I. that wooden buildings were forbidden, and various laws enacted for the security and ornament of the city. The great church was erected in 1160, by Birger Jarl, and it contained formerly twenty-three altars and other antiquities. In 1525 the first mass was celebrated in the Swedish language. The toleration was established in 1741, and in 1782 it was extended to the Jews. The marriage of a Jew with a Christian woman was at the same time allowed.

The fourth and fifth chapters contain an account of the establishment of markets, public places, fountains, bridges, churches, &c.

The sixth chapter offers a description of the statues erected in honour of the kings of Sweden. A great part of this would, to the English reader, be uninteresting; but we shall add a short account of that elevated to the honour of Gustavus III., which was completed in August 1799. It is situated on the shore, on the spot where the king landed after the war against the Russians; and it will be placed on a pedestal of porphyry. The height is eleven feet. The king is represented standing, holding in his right hand a branch of olive, and resting his left on the rudder of a ship.

In the seventh and eighth chapters the author speaks of some



public establishments and buildings. In the ninth, of the extent of the city, and its population, which is estimated at 80,000. The number of houses is classed at 6000, which gives more than ten persons to each house; but we believe the houses, like those in Edinburgh, contain more than one family. The tenth chapter treats of the ceremonies of coronation, holding of diets, and other solemnities. Eric Knutson was the first king, and was crowned in 1210.

The three chapters of the second part relate to the history of the castle, to the fortifications of the city, and the attacks to which it has been exposed, particularly at the time of the union.

The second volume, which contains an account of the suburbs, is divided into three parts. The first treats of the neighbouring islands. One of these is Ritterholm. In repairing a Franciscan church, the following singular inscription was discovered:—‘Sex fuerunt eruntque causæ malorum in Sueciâ: 1. Proprium commodum; 2. Latens odium; 3. Contemptus legum; 4. Negligentia communis boni; 5. Favor improvidus in exteros; 6. Pertinax invidia in suos.’

The last two parts of this volume contain the history of the northern suburbs. We remark, in these, the monument erected to the memory of the abbé Micheliessi, the friend of Frederic the Great, by the counts Hoepken and Scheffer; a marble monument to the memory of a French actress, the inscription on which concludes with these remarkable words:—‘Care viator, ut actâ vitæ tuæ fabulâ, felix decedas;’ and the opera-house built by Gustavus III.

A subsequent volume is promised, which will contain the rest of the topography of Stockholm, the history of the government of this city, of its commerce, industry, &c. Should it offer any thing peculiarly interesting, we shall certainly return to it.

## DENMARK.

*K. A. Schönsboe Betrachtungen über das Gewächreich in Morokko gesammelt. Observations on the Vegetable Kingdom, collected in a Journey through the Empire of Morocco, in the Years 1791, 1792, and 1793. By K. A. Schönsboe. Vol. I. 8vo. With two Plates. Copenhagen.*—These Observations were originally written in the Danish language, and appeared in the collection of Memoirs of the Physical Class of the Royal Society of Copenhagen, published by M. Rafn. They are translated into the German by M. Markussen; and from this our account must be taken, as the original is not at present in our hands. The Observations, when complete, will form a Morocco Flora. The plants are characterised and described according to the Linnæan system, in Latin, and (in the present volume) in German. It extends only to the octandria, except a few plants added in a supplement.

We find, first, a description of the country. Tunis and Algiers, however, have been described by Shaw, Poiret, Vahl, and Desfontaines. Morocco has not yet been examined by a botanist. Its climate is temperate, and its soil fertile. The most comfortable season of the year is the rainy. Excellent fruits are produced by cultivation, except apples, pears, and cherries, which do not succeed. Tobacco and hemp will grow with luxuriance; but the cultivation is in general neglected. The forests are composed of trees of a moderate height only, and sometimes are only thickets of shrubs. The large forests on the northern coasts consist of different species of oaks and firs: on the south are date-trees.

Among the indigenous plants, some have not been described; and of these we shall mention a few. 1. *Salvia interrupta*, (plate 1st.) *festuca alopecurus*, *bromus longifolius*, distinguished from the *bromus ramosus* of Willdenow only by its long leaves; 2. *Arundo donax*, employed in making pens; 3. *Plantago stricta*; 4. *Echium micranthum*; 5. *Anagallis collina*; 6. *Trachelium angustifolium*; 7. *Lonicera canescens*; 8. *Ziziphus lotus*, the fruit of which is said, by the author, to be the true lotus of the ancients, from which they derived the name of *loto-phagi*; 9. *Eleodendron argan retz*, a tree little known, whose fruit contains white kernels. These are dried, ground, and suffered to melt, in order to extract the oil of argan, used in cookery. The external shell is good food for camels and other cattle; 10. *Illecebrum graphalodes*; *salsola verticillata*; *bupleurum canescens*; *cenanthe nodiflora*; *pimpinella villosa*; *rhus albidum*; *linum virgatum*; *leucoium trichophyllum*; *narcissus viridiflorus* (plate 2.); 11. *amaryllis exigua*; 12. *Scilla serotina*, *Mauritanica*, *Tingitana*; 13. *Juncus maritimus*, differing from the *juncus acutus* by its less size and pointed capsules, equalling the calyx in length; 14. *Lausonia inermis*, a shrub known in Egypt, and cultivated here, to extract from its dried leaves, by means of acids, a fluid which dyes the hands and feet of infants a reddish yellow.

*Kongl Veteskeaps, &c. Memoirs of the Academy of Belles Lettres, History, and Antiquities. Vol. VI. 8vo. Copenhagen.*—The number of the memoirs is not so great as in the former volume, nor are they so extensive; yet some of them are interesting and important. The first, by D. Meleander-hielm, treats of the advantages of the study of astronomy in historical inquiries. These advantages relate to the geographical position, which if ascertained, the author thinks that some supposed discoveries will be found not to be so. He conceives that the Ophir of Solomon was probably Peru, and that the Carthaginians were acquainted with America, which was the Atlantis of Plato. 2. A historical account of a convent of nuns near Aspenaes, by A. Schæneberg; a memoir of some importance in



the history of Sweden. 3. Some explanations to assist the geographical description of the north of Europe, in the History of Orasius, by professor Porthan of Abo. This work was attributed to Alfred; and Daines Barrington published at London, in 1783, an Anglo-Saxon translation of Orasius, accompanied with an English version, some observations of Mr. Forster, and a chart. Our author has given a Swedish translation of this work, with many historical and geographical remarks. 4. A discourse on poetry, by M. de Engestroem. 5. Extracts from the registers of the academy, in 1791, respecting the prizes then proposed. 6. Designs of some medals to be struck in honour of some celebrated personages in the time of Charles IX., by M. Kutstroem. 7. Discourse delivered by the secretary of state, Schroeder-hjelm, on the anniversary of the Academy, 24th of July 1791. This relates to the ancient court of Sweden, its diversions, music, tournaments, ceremonies of reception, and the gymnastic exercises of the times. In 1455, the king gave a dinner, in which 1400 silver plates were served. Under Charles IX. the first theatres were established, and the performances commenced in 1611. Queen Christiana contributed much to the progress of sciences and belles lettres: at the age of 65, she composed at Rome the opera of Endymion. Diversions multiplied during the first year of the reign of Charles XII., and the reign of Gustavus II. was the most brilliant æra of the Swedish court. 8. Extracts from the registers of the Academy of the 27th of March 1792. 9. A critical memoir on the antiquity of the provincial laws of Sweden, by M. Burmann. 10. Carmen in victoriam Helsinburgensem, 1710, auctore J. Lundblad. This poem, in honour of general Steenbök, received the prize in 1792. 11. A design of an inscription for a monument of Linnæus, and of some medals in honour of celebrated persons of the reign of Charles XI. 12, and 13. Two discourses of M. Rosenstein; one delivered in 1792, on the presentation of the Academy to the king; and the other the 24th of July 1792, its anniversary. 14. Discourse on the progress of the belles lettres and arts among the Greeks, by Wilde. Our author examines the history of each, and shows that the belles lettres and fine arts have proceeded hand in hand. In Greece they were studied by persons of rank; in Rome, by slaves and freedmen; so that, on this account, the latter had no style of their own. In architecture they preferred solidity to ornament; they esteemed sculpture, but almost thought painting ‘ars honestis non spectata manibus.’ Lastly, M. Wilde defends the Goths and Aristotle from the imputation of having contributed to the decline of the fine arts. This was, he thinks, rather owing to the ignorance and despotism of the monks, who impeded their progress till the æra of pope Nicolas, and after the conquest of Constantinople, when the Greeks became again the instructors of the Romans. 15. The discourse of chancellor Engestroem, on his reception into the Academy, Au-

gust 28, 1793. We find in it some just remarks on the reform to which Gustavus Adolphus contributed so considerably. The volume concludes with three *éloges*, and some designs of medals and inscriptions.

*The Scandinavian Muscum. No. I. Vol. III. Copenhagen.*—We notice the publication of this number for the information of the lovers of northern literature, and shall add the contents from the communication of our correspondents, though the number have not reached us. It contains an 'Ode to Reason,' and two 'lyric romances,' worthy of the muse of Baggesen; a philosophical discourse 'on the utility of the study of the rights of Nature,' by professor Schlegel, author of 'European Statistics;' and 'Geognostic letters on the mountains of Königsberg,' by Esmark, with some other pieces of inferior importance.

The history of this periodical publication is singular. The Swedes and Danes, though so near neighbours, and equally descendants of the ancient Scandinavians, coalesce as little as the Spaniards and Portuguese, the Athenians and Lacedæmonians, the French and Germans, or the Parisians and English. The number of literary characters in each capital is nearly equal; and neither can assume the superiority. Of late, the difference of political interests has increased the opposition; and the liberty of the press, lately established in Denmark, has caused no little jealousy in Stockholm, and a rigorous caution against the importation of Danish works. In spite however of these obstacles, some Danish authors formed a plan of uniting all the kingdoms of the north in a literary association. A journal was the first tie expected to unite the two nations; but this journal, the *Nordia*, soon failed of the supposed end, and only fortified the Swedes in their prejudice against Danish literature.

M. Hæst, the editor of the *Nordia*, was however soon employed in another attempt. Twelve literary men of each country united in publishing the *Scandinavian Museum*, and Hæst was the secretary; but literary cabal and political dissension soon checked the design; and the whole number of active members was reduced to about one half the original number of Danes. Two volumes were however the result of their combined labours. Indeed the plan was too vast, and embraced a range too extensive; so that to the learned it was not sufficiently interesting, and to the world in general not sufficiently attractive. If it had been divided into two works, it might have succeeded better. As it was, the bookseller (Seidelin) seems to have been the loser; and he declined the concern.

The *Museum* then appeared at an end, and M. Hæst published a *Swedish Journal* in 1799; but the first number of the third volume is now advertised—with what success, cannot yet be known.

*Denk Würdigkeiten ans dem Leben des Kœniglich Dænischen Staat Minister. Memoirs of the Life of the Danish Minister*



*Count de Bernstorff. By C. H. D. d'Eggers. 2 Vols. 8vo. With a Portrait of the Count.* Copenhagen.—An abstract of the life of count Bernstorff was lately published by professor Nyrap; but the present work is more complete. It is in a great degree drawn from a manuscript which the minister put into the author's hands, and from the information of persons intimately connected with the count.

The first volume contains the life of the count, and a considerable part of his diplomatic career: the second, a great number of official papers respecting the connexion of Denmark with other foreign powers. We find, by these, that Bernstorff was the first author of the armed neutrality, in 1780; that he was often called to the administration, and as often forced to retire, by the intrigues of the court, till he was established in the office of secretary of foreign affairs in 1784, by the Prince Royal, when he assumed the government of Denmark, a post which he filled till his death in 1797. His country was indebted to him for many excellent institutions; among the rest, for the freedom of the peasantry, which he obtained by the protection and influence of the prince.

The author has introduced many important discussions, on the navigation of neutral vessels, on the effects of the liberty of the press, &c.; and in the notes adds the titles of the works which have appeared on the rights of neutral powers, on the armed neutrality, and the freedom of the peasantry. On these subjects we cannot here enlarge, but shall be glad to return to this interesting work, on its assuming an English dress.

### SPAIN.

*Icones et Descriptiones Plantarum. Figures and Descriptions of Plants. By Joseph Cavanilles. Vol. VI. Part I.*—We have often noticed this work in its progress, and it is continued with a credit and splendor scarcely impaired. This part contains sixty figures and sixty-nine descriptions of plants, chiefly from New Holland. Among these we notice the *Hakæa*, *Lambertia*, *Protea*, and *Banksia*. The second part is in the press.

*Seminario de Agricultura y Artes. Seminary of Agriculture and the Arts. 8vo. Madrid.*—This journal, commenced under the auspices of the Prince of the Peace—a title, by the way, by no means new in the Spanish history—is designed for the purpose of collecting all the discoveries and inventions of foreign countries, concerning agriculture, the arts, and manufactures. In the eighth volume, now before us, we find a general view of the common system of manures, on the best method of irrigation, and the remedies publicly employed in Asturia against the infection of the plague.

*Anales de Ciencias Naturales. Annals of Natural Sciences. Madrid.*—The commerce of science and literature between

this country and Spain was never considerable; and the little which ever existed has been greatly interrupted by the late war. We find, at present, no little difficulty in renewing it. We must collect, therefore, what our correspondents transmit, without much discrimination. We may on this occasion remark that the new system of chemistry gradually gains ground; and that, among the translations, we observe many military works, particularly the campaigns of Bonaparte.

This journal is published monthly, and, with the assistance of foreign philosophers, is not unentertaining. From the contents of the last number, we shall select the titles of the more important articles. 1. Botanical observations, by M. Brussonet. 2. Several mineralogical letters, by M. A. de Humboldt, to the minister of Saxony, baron de Forell, and to Don Joseph Clavigo; with a plan of a mineralogical history of Spain and her colonies. 3. Astronomical observations made at Madrid, Cadiz, &c. 4. A memoir on the Spanish naturalists, and an advertisement of a botanical work on Hungary.

*Suplemento, &c. A Supplement to the Quinologica, by D. Hipolito Ruiz, and Don los Pacon. 4to.*—The memoir to which this is a supplement is sufficiently known. Its subject is the different kinds of bark found in Peru; and the supplement contains a description of two new species, with an answer to a criticism of Jussieu on the Prodrômus to the Flora of Peru and Chili.

*Fisica del Cuerpo Humano, &c.; The Philosophy of the Human Body; or, Physiological Elements, accommodated to every Class of Literary Men. By Don Joseph Coll. Published by Don Bernardo Voguer. Madrid.*—This is a translation from a work with a similar title, by Dr. Blumenbach of Göttingen; and it appears to be sufficiently accurate.

*Teatro nuevo Espanol. New Spanish Theatre. 3 Vols. 8vo. Madrid.*—These volumes contain the best pieces of Molière and Destouches, with some of Kotzebue, who, by the way, has met with severe treatment from the Spanish critics. One of the most poignant satires is entitled the Muger Varonil, the Virago. It is principally directed against the sentimental comedies, the *comédies larmoyantes* of the French.

*El Fingal y Temora. Fingal and Temora, in Verse. By Don Petro Montengon. 4to. Madrid.*—Translations, as we have already observed, are common in Spain. Among these, we find the Recreations of a Sensible Man, by Arnaud; the Studies of Nature, by St. Pierre; Quintilian; and the second edition of Blair's Lectures. Of the present translation only the first volume has appeared, and its merit is not considerable. The same author has attempted a translation of Shakspeare also.



## REVIEW

OF

## MAPS AND CHARTS.

*Italy, with the Addition of the Southern Parts of Germany, as far as Pettau in Stiria, Murlakia, Dalmatia, the adjacent Countries, and all the Illyric Islands. By L. S. de la Rochette. Four Sheets. 18s. Faden.*

THIS title is introduced by the following advertisement :

“ This map is not an enlarged copy, as it might be supposed, especially at the present period, of the map of Italy constructed in 1743 by the celebrated d’Anville, and already copied here in 1745. Since that time, astronomical observations having been multiplied every where, the number of trigonometric surveys has increased in the same proportion. The accumulation of so many geographical materials, at the head of which is to be placed the grand map of France, ascertaining invariably the western frontier of Italy, cannot be detailed, and still less analysed in a short advertisement. We ought to distinguish, however, the following publications ; namely, The Map of the Ecclesiastical State, by the Jesuits Maire and Boscovich ;—The Map as well as the Charts of the Kingdom of Naples, by Zannoni ; Dalbe’s Theatre of the War in Italy, published at Milan by order of Buonaparte, and including a great Portion of Germany, with the whole of Swisserland. To these must be added Cursay’s Surveys of Corsica ; The Map of Ombria, Etruria, Latium, Magna Græcia, et Sicilia Antiqua, composed for the education of the Dauphin by the unfortunate La Borde ; The Map of Sicily known by the name of *Marshal de Schmettau*, compared with that which merited W. Delisle a letter of thanks from the king of Sardinia, then king of Sicily\*, and regulated by the late observations of signor Piazzzi at Palermo ; several national maps and charts of the Sardinian and Venetian possessions ; the chart of capt. Knight of the royal navy ; and, lastly, a manuscript survey of Murlakia, Dalmatia, and the Illyric Islands, wherein are to be found many new and interesting particulars.

\* When was this?

From these materials, and a multitude of others equally authentic, though less comprehensive, the present Map of Italy, with its additions, has been drawn on a scale near one-half larger than d'Anville's Map of Italy, which we shall always consider as a *chef-d'œuvre* of geographical knowledge and execution.—W. Faden.”

We are given to understand that this map is constructed by M. de la Rochette, who executes the drawings for most of the maps and charts published by Mr. Faden, and which in general do great honour to his skill. In fact, M. de la Rochette may be regarded as the most learned draughtsman of maps in England. The construction of a map, though it may seem to the unskilful inspector a matter of great ease and routine, is nevertheless one of the most difficult exertions of human industry; and days will sometimes be employed in adjusting one position. Maps are generally laid down by men only versed in the mathematical or technical part, and it is rare that they understand any language except their own. Hence d'Anville became so great a phenomenon in geography, as he was not only an able constructor of maps, but a man of extensive learning and information. He also exercised great patience, and employed many years in constructing and improving his designs, so that they appeared before the public in as great a state of perfection as the materials would admit.

Yet, since the time of d'Anville, not only many new discoveries have taken place, but a more accurate study of geology, and the rapid progress of the other sciences, have introduced such improvements in recent maps as d'Anville could not even have foreseen; particularly the ranges of mountains, their collateral ridges, and their spurs or branches, have been developed with precision by numerous investigators; and even the tremendous confusion of the Alps has been delineated by Weiss with all the truth of nature.

Though M. de la Rochette possess eminent abilities as a constructor of maps, yet he aspires to but a small portion of that learning which distinguished d'Anville; nor do we remember any memoir or treatise published by him which might serve as a test of his literary information. In maps he is certainly well skilled; but an eminent constructor ought to be equally versed in solid literature, and in the progress of every science in any degree connected with his profession.

But as a d'Anville rarely appears, we have ever been more eager to praise the exertions of M. de la Rochette than to criticise his deficiencies. Hence we passed in silence some faults in his beautiful Map of Persia, and the erroneous information therein contained, that the emperor of China had visited Badakshan, certainly derived from some author wholly undeserving of credit.



The map now before us may be regarded as the best yet published of Italy; as, to the advantages of d'Anville's learning, are superadded a larger scale and great improvements from the authorities mentioned in the advertisement. After this just commendation, we may be permitted to remark a most glaring defect in the delineation of the mountains, which are laid down on the antiquated and inaccurate plan, now reprobated by every skilful geographer, as wholly remote from the natural forms—this map being sprinkled with a number of mole-hills in every direction, intended to represent the grand chains of the Alps and Pyrenees! This adherence to a method now justly exploded must either proceed from want of information in the progress of geology and the modern art of constructing maps, or from a prejudice in favour of the ancient manner—alike deserving of reprehension, as it tends to impede the progress of the science in this country. It is wholly impossible from this map either to judge of the direction of the main ridges, or to estimate their comparative heights. Upon comparing the Alps, as here laid down with those in the maps of Switzerland by Weiss or Mechel, the campaigns of Bonaparte by Dalbe, or even the south-eastern parts of France reduced from Cassini by Rochette himself, the vast superiority of the recent plan will be instantly perceived. Nor can the smallness of the scale be urged as an objection; for any engraver of common skill could easily reduce these maps to a small size; in which case the chief and leading ridges would alone appear, thus preserving those very parts which deserve to be prominent. It was doubtless far easier for the constructor to retain the antiquated mole-hills of d'Anville than to lay in the mountains in the just and scientific manner adopted by recent geographers; but the consequence of this want of knowledge or industry may easily be foreseen in the superior merit and success of any map that should add these advantages to others contained in the present publication.

We have neither time nor inclination to enter into a minute criticism on this production. A few mistakes might be pointed out in the spelling, as *Gemini* for *Gemmi*, *Difentis* for *Disentis*, *Macagnana* for *Macugnaga*, &c. &c. &c. The confused manner of laying in the mountains also impedes the facility of consultation. In Sicily, for instance, though generally reputed a plain and fertile country, it is difficult to trace the names of places, or even the courses of rivers; because, while it is ludicrously divided into its three famous Vales, it is so completely covered with strings of beads, in imitation of mountains, that, upon comparing it with the Alps in this very map, it will be found by far the more Alpine country of the two! This singularity becomes the more apparent on a collation with d'Anville's own Map of Italy, in which Sicily is laid down with far more truth and exactness than it here appears on a scale of double the size. This

striking instance may perhaps serve finally to explode the random caterpillars, or bead strings, formerly used to represent mountains, and which any constructor of maps was accustomed to introduce at his own pleasure, like the elephants and lions of ancient geography, while, in the Oriental style, he called on the mountains to cover his sins.

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*Lower Egypt and the adjacent Deserts, with a Part of Palestine ; to which has been added the Nomenclature of the Roman Age. By L. S. de la Rochette. 7s. 6d. Faden. 1802,*

THIS map will be found to vary considerably in many important respects, particularly the shape of the lakes at the mouth of the Nile, from the map of d'Anville. No doubt M. de la Rochette has not only used the map of Niebuhr, but also such materials as are supplied in the recent French memoirs. Yet this production would no doubt have received superior advantages if its appearance had been delayed till the drawings taken by the English officers could have been collected and compared. A late work of the French general Reynier, accompanied with a map, might also have been found useful. We are informed that the longitudes here assigned to Suez and Cairo are liable to objections, which will of course affect many of the other positions. The form of the lake of Edko or Etko, and the canal of Alexandria, seem also to be inaccurate ; the latter, on an actual survey, having been found to pursue a very winding course. There also seem to be some errors in the French maps concerning the natron lakes, of which Mr. Browne as well as other travelers only discovered two.

We need not examine what M. de la Rochette terms the *nomenclature* of the *Roman age*, as on this subject it can hardly be expected that he should have added any thing to the discoveries of d'Anville and other able illustrators. This map, which is delineated with care and neatly engraved, embraces a part of Palestine extending beyond Acca, corruptly called Acre, in the north, and Jerusalem in the east, thus apparently intended to illustrate the marches of Bonaparte, as well as the British transactions in Egypt. But as we expect many new elucidations concerning Lower Egypt from the memoirs and surveys of several British officers, we shall delay till a future period a more ample investigation of the improvements that may be made in the geography of that interesting country.



*A New Map of the Island of Trinidad; made by Order of His Excellency Sir Ralph Abercromby, K.B. Lieutenant-General and Commander in Chief of the British Forces in the West-Indies. By F. Mallet, Captain of the Surveying Engineers. Four Sheets. With a short Description and reduced Map. 1l. 7s. Faden. 1802.*

THIS beautiful map has been published in consequence of the cession of that important island by Spain to Great-Britain. It is on a scale of more than half an inch to the English mile, and exhibits all the allotments of the plantations. The island is pervaded by three chains of mountains; one along the northern shore, one along the southern, and another in the middle. They all run from east to west.

The description begins with informing us that the extreme length of Trinidad from east to west is sixty British miles, and its breadth from north to south forty-five miles, containing two thousand four hundred square miles, superficial measure. But, on measuring the map by the scale there laid down, we find the extreme length from east to west to be not less than eighty-five British miles, and from north to south more than sixty. This mistake is wholly unaccountable, and does very little credit to the accuracy of the compiler of the description. In fact, it is idle to compute the length by the long southern promontory. The real length of Trinidad is from north to south about sixty British miles, according to the present map, while the breadth from west to east is about forty; or, including the slender promontories, and taking a medium, about fifty British miles.

This map is said to have been grounded on the Spanish maritime survey made by order of government in 1793; but the topography of the interior was executed by Mr. Mallet in 1797, when the British forces took possession of the island. It is added that it not only contains all the plats of land granted by Spain, but those which remain to be disposed of, divided into squares. It seems not a little remarkable that the proprietors, as appears from the list of names, are mostly French. The monstrous fish mentioned in p. 5 is the hammer-headed shark. The acquisition of this noble island may no doubt lead to great advantages in our West-India trade.

*A Map of the United States of North-America, drawn from a Number of critical Researches. By Aaron Arrowsmith, Geographer. Four Sheets. 1l. 1s. Sold by the Author.*

THIS interesting map, having been published in 1796, can only be here noticed for the improvements made in the edition before us, and which extend to 1802. These are chiefly in the

north-west division, in which the Lake Superior assumes a considerable difference of form, and the sources of the Mississippi vary considerably from their former appearance. North-America having particularly engaged our geographer's attention for several years, there can be little doubt that the present map, which is engraven with great clearness, will be found superior to any other which has appeared of the United States.

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*A Map of Turkey in Europe, drawn from a great Number of accurate Astronomical and Geographical Manuscripts and printed Documents. By Aaron Arrowsmith. Two Sheets. 10s. 6d. Sold by the Author. 1801.*

IT is well known that the geography of European Turkey is singularly imperfect, as the ignorance and fanaticism of the Turks, not to mention their jealousy of their European neighbours, have prevented any accurate survey. Of the provinces on the north of the Danube delineations have been taken with some exactness by officers in the Russian and Austrian service; and of many parts of Greece actual surveys were made by the count de Choiseul: but for the other extensive provinces, particularly Albania and those in the west, the materials are extremely defective. From the routes of various travelers, and other authentic sources, Mr. Arrowsmith has however been enabled to draw up a map, which, though it cannot be regarded as in any degree complete, is nevertheless superior in many respects to any general map of European Turkey. The mountains are, with few exceptions, laid in chorographically; and the engraving is very clear and neat. But we must regret that the sea is marked by a mere outline—a circumstance which gives an unfinished appearance. The remedy in such a case would be to tinge the sea with verdigris; but as maps, like books, are intended for distant posterity, it is probable that no tinge would stand a course of years; and it seems desirable that a map should be perfect in itself, without requiring any adventitious aid, which may often be administered by unskilful hands.

The rivers in Moldavia and Walachia are laid down with great minuteness; but the other parts of these provinces do not seem to be equally finished, as there is not the shadow of a hill, or any elevated ground; and even the Carpathian mountains are delineated in a faint and obscure manner. But the great chain of Hæmus, and the branch called Rhodope, are well expressed, and throw light on some doubtful parts of ancient geography. In the north-west there is an omission of a considerable part of Bosnia, together with the whole of Croatia, and a fragment of Herzgovina or the duchy of St. Saba. Yet it is



probable that in a very short period of time the present map may be more complete than at present.

As this map is chiefly interesting with regard to ancient history, we wish that the ingenious author had accompanied it with a short memoir, pointing out the sources of his information. If a partition of Turkey be in agitation, as is averred—and is indeed to be wished for the sake of humanity, lest those beautiful regions should become the prey of ignorant and cruel bashaws, whose petty wars would spread universal destruction and depopulation—the marches of foreign armies will soon illustrate the geography of this country. If not, it would be desirable that enlightened travelers should visit Albania, and other parts little known, instead of presenting us with a thousand voyages to Constantinople and Smyrna, where nothing remains to be discovered.

*A New Map of Africa, including Arabia, the Mediterranean, and Part of the Coast of South-America; compiled from the Observations of the latest Travelers. Four Sheets. 10s. 6d. Wilkinson.*

IN this map, that of d'Anville has been used with some care; and the latest discoveries are inserted, so as to constitute, upon the whole, a performance not indeed of the first merit, but tolerably decent and exact. The routes introduced are those of Bruce, Browne, and Park, with that of Messrs. Watt and Winterbottom to Teemboo, Vaillant from the Cape of Good Hope, and Dawes from Sierra Leone.

Even in large maps, we have sometimes been surprised at the want of taste and skill in the general square. This defect we had recently occasion to censure in a map of America; and, in the present instance, the absurd admission of a considerable part of Brazil greatly injures the appearance and effect of the whole—the continent of Africa being thrown to one side, in opposition to the rules of just design. Owing to this strange idea, several isles on the N. E. of Madagascar, &c. are omitted, though they strictly belong to the African division of the world. On the other hand, Arabia is laid down for the first time with some care from the description of Niebuhr, though far indeed from perfect accuracy—the constructor having neither talents nor experience sufficient to attain geographical eminence. On a general view of this map, it must also be observed that the mountains are delineated in the old perspective manner; an appearance foreign to nature when they are viewed from above, as must be the supposition in geographical delineation. The sandy deserts, however, are well represented; but, in staining a map, it seems unnecessary to mark the outlines with a deeper colour; nay, it is frequently injurious, as it hides the course of the rivers, the

marks of towns, and other objects of consequence. Two oblong squares are introduced—one of Sierra Leone, and the other of Lower Egypt; but the first is of little consequence, and might well be taken out, to make room for a new title; while the fragment of Brazil, and all beyond the longitude of the Cape Verd Islands, should be sacrificed.

This map, as we have already mentioned, having few pretensions to superior merit, we shall be contented with a brief review of some objects that excite remark, beginning with the states of Barbary, and proceeding towards the east and south. Morocco is laid down by d'Anville at too great a distance from the sea, as is evident from the journeys of Lempriere and Hoest; yet in this error he has been followed by major Rennell and the constructor of the present map. The chain and direction of the celebrated Mount Atlas are also wholly erroneous, though not equally so with d'Anville's delineation; the chief defect of whose maps is the vague and arbitrary representation of those great features of nature, which have had more influence on history, and even the characters of nations, than any other feature of natural geography, and ought of course to be traced with the greatest care. In general, this part of the map is copied from d'Anville, but is not so rich in names. In Tripoli there are several improvements; yet the geography of that part of northern Africa remains very imperfect; the country not having been pervaded by any scientific traveler. Egypt affords trivial room for observation; and in Nubia little has been added to the geography of d'Anville. Abyssinia has become a trifling theme; and Bernier's Map of the Sources of the Nile, 1666, contains the most essential features.

From Adel to Mozambic, the African coasts are obscure; the Portuguese, who have settlements in that quarter, being far behind the other European nations in every branch of science. The constructor of this map has rather too boldly laid down some chains of mountains in southern Africa: and his Ethiopia is an arbitrary denomination—the Ethiopia of the ancients being chiefly Abyssinia; while the modern extension of the appellation is alike vague and useless, as it conveys no determinate idea. His other denominations in this quarter are extended much beyond the bounds of real knowledge, and are rather calculated to fill up the map than to convey the just representation of great deficiencies.

In the copy before us, the bank of Aiguilhas, to the south of the Cape of Good Hope, is ludicrously coloured as a sandy desert; so that an ignorant inspector would be led to believe the bays are visited by camels, and not by ships. In the regions round the Cape, too much confidence has been placed in the authority of Vaillant, whose pretensions have been detected by Mr. Barrow. The course of the Orange River, in



particular, is wholly erroneous; and the Fish River (a name which indeed means nothing) may be a fabrication of the French adventurer. We believe the *Burning Desert* does not burn more than the others; but this map will certainly not burn from the concentrated irradiations of science. Congo, &c. are copied from d'Anville; yet there are many omissions; and the publisher has been sparing in the expense of letter engraving. There are also some mistakes which evince that the constructor is not versed in the original authorities; but it would be degrading to criticise the present map as a learned production; and we shall reserve such a review for some future capital map of Africa. Suffice it to remark, as a solitary instance, that the *learned* constructor has placed the country Gabon far to the north of the town of Majumba; while far to the north of Gabon is marked the country of Majombo. The plain fact is, that Majumba, or Manijumba, only means the King of Yomba—a small district round the town, here called Majumba.

The idea here expressed, that the kingdom of Dahomy is the Dauma of Leo, may deserve attention; but that the people of Lamlem are Jews seems a futile and unwarrantable notion. We need not pursue the well-known coast of Guinea, nor the rivers Gambia and Senegal; after which we arrive at the Great Desert, and the kingdoms of Barbary, whence our progress began.

In the central parts, the constructor has chiefly followed the opinions of major Rennell, or rather endeavoured to combine them with those of d'Anville; to whose delineation the major has been obliged to recur, after having expressed, in his map prefixed to the papers of the African Society, 1790, the Niger running from the east towards the west. The constructor of the present map is certainly little enabled to improve upon d'Anville, in countries where more recent discoveries have not been made: but, to display some appearance of learning, he has introduced some references to Ptolemy, which only serve to show his unacquaintance with ancient geography. He gravely supposes, for instance, that the Coloe Palus of that ancient geographer, which every school-boy knows is the lake of Dembea, and which a bare inspection of the maps in Ptolemy's Geography would suffice to identify, gives source to the river Kulla, fifteen degrees to the west; while the river Kulla itself must forsooth be called Coloe! A more puerile supposition, arising from a supposed resemblance of names, and a more gross and radical error, certainly never disgraced any geographical production. We have already expressed our opinion that the river Kulla of Browne is the only stream yet detected in that quarter which can at all correspond with the Gir of Ptolemy: but our constructor supposes the Gir to be the Bahr Misselad. This last seems indicated by Ptolemy in the river

which runs into his Nuba Palus, rightly delineated to the N.E. of the Gir, though the direction of the stream be westerly instead of northerly. So much for the only points in which the constructor seems to aspire to original learning, or indeed the only point; for that relative to the Gir may be faintly traced in d'Anville, who supposes that the Gir or Nile of the Negroes of Edrisi runs north into the lake of Kauga. But the course assigned by d'Anville, and the present constructor, is far too short for the great river Gir of Ptolemy, which seems obstinately rejected by modern geographers. In a recent German map we have seen the river Kulla of Browne delineated as entering the sea at Calabar. But Mr. Browne expresses his opinion that this river pursues a north-westerly course; and the bare inspection of his map might instantly have satisfied any scientific constructor that the river Kulla alone could correspond with the Gir of Ptolemy.

The chief merit of the present map is, that it assembles in one point of view all the recent discoveries concerning Africa; but the interior parts are laid down with a deceitful appearance of certainty; and the constructor is assuredly not sufficiently imbued with geographical knowledge for the difficult task which he has undertaken.

*Smith's New English Atlas, being a complete Set of County Maps, &c.*  
Sold by the Author.

WE have already mentioned this Atlas, and the terms on which it is to be published. There are six numbers now before us, containing eighteen maps, executed with tolerable care and neatness. But the waste of paper around each county seems sufficiently to proclaim that the best mode of executing an English Atlas would be to publish it in sheets, filled to the edges, which, with a proper index map, might be as easily consulted, as if divided into counties. This last plan has also many inconveniences well known to every practical geographer, without one advantage to balance them; and we would wish to see it finally dismissed from geography both at home and abroad, when an Atlas of a whole kingdom is intended. Particular surveys of distinct counties or provinces will still retain their claim of applause, when executed by able hands.

It may not be unnecessary to repeat, that the price of each number of Mr. Smith's Atlas, containing three maps, is 6s. 6d. coloured, and 8s. stained. It is expected to be completed this autumn.



*Cary's New English Atlas, in a complete Set of County Maps, &c. No. I. Price 7s. outlined, and 8s. full coloured. Sold by the Author.*

ON comparing this with Mr. Smith's, we sometimes find more care displayed in Mr. Cary's; as, for instance, in Charnwood Forest in Leicestershire. Mr. Cary's map of Bedfordshire is also far superior to Mr. Smith's in the delineation of the hills. In strict impartiality, therefore, we must prefer Mr. Cary's, however inclined we may be to favour Mr. Smith's spirit and industry. But an equal objection of waste of paper, and want of concatenation of parts, arises against both; and it is singular that neither should have alighted on the only legitimate plan of executing an Atlas of a kingdom.

*Chart of the Baltic Straits; namely, the Great Belt, the Little Belt, and the Sound; including the South Part of the Kattegat, with the Western Part of the Baltic Sea, and all the Danish Isles; from the Surveys made by the Swedish Admiral Nordenanker, and Professor C. Lous, Director of Navigation at Copenhagen. 7s. 6d. Faden.*

THE survey by admiral Nordenanker is universally esteemed the most exact which has yet appeared; and the present excellent chart is constructed with great care upon that survey. There can be no doubt that the shores, shoals, &c. &c. are laid down with the utmost accuracy; and it is singularly rich in the observation of soundings.

*Chart of the Sleeve, or Gulf of Jutland, and of the North Part of the Kattegat, from the Surveys of the Swedish Admiral Nordenanker, and those made in Denmark and Norway by Professor Lous, Director of Navigation, and by the Royal Engineers. 7s. 6d. Faden.*

THIS sheet is connected with the former, being the northern part of the same chart. It includes a supplement of the Sound of Christiana. The praise bestowed on the preceding may be extended to this.

*Chart of the Coasts of South America, from Rio de la Plata to Cape Horn, and from Cape Horn to Valparayso, including the Isles of Juan Fernandes. Two Sheets. 15s. Faden.*

TO the title of this chart is annexed the following information:

' The Spanish chart from which almost the whole of the present is a faithful copy has been geometrically surveyed by royal order in the years 1789, 90, 94, and 95; and presented to his Catholic majesty in 1798 by Don Juan de Langara, minister of marine. That excellent original extends only from the parallel of  $36^{\circ} 30'$  of south latitude to Cape Horn, and goes not beyond the meridian of  $76^{\circ} 42'$  west of Greenwich. A greater extension given to this copy in latitude and longitude has enabled us to insert the Isles of Juan Fernandes, which are of some interest to our navigators in the South Sea. We have added, besides, various plans of harbours and roads, appearances of land, tracks of ships, with their soundings, &c. and several other particulars. The improvements made on the south coast of Tierra del Fuego, and omitted by the Spanish hydrographer, might be equally mentioned, could their small importance make them remarkable in a series of discoveries which so eminently increase our geographical knowledge.'

The Spanish survey here mentioned must be that by Malespina, whose name, we understand, is, on account of some slight difference or jealousy, affectedly passed in silence by the Spanish council of marine. The present chart is extremely interesting, as it is founded on the first correct delineation of a great part of the shores of the new continent; and it varies considerably from the charts and maps before published. In the first sheet there are plans and views of Juan Fernandes, &c. with a small chart of the north part of Saint George's Bay, and others of Sea-Bear Bay and Port Saint Elena. The southern sheet also contains several views of land and plans of ports. A remarkable feature of the southern part is the large island of Campana, lat.  $48^{\circ}$ , and the Campana channel, which divides it from the main land of New Chili.

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*Cork Harbour; surveyed by John Knight, Esq. Rear-Admiral of the Blue. 5s. Steel.*

THIS chart seems to be laid down with attention and accuracy. It is accompanied with short sailing directions, and with six views of the entrance of Cork harbour and adjacent lands.



*A Chart of Ceuta and Tetuan Bays; in which are pointed out the most advantageous Places of Rendezvous for the Purposes of Victualling and Watering a Fleet. Surveyed, and particularly designed for the Use of the British Navy, by Captain John Knight, of the Royal Navy. 5s. Steel.*

THIS chart is chiefly interesting, as it includes a considerable portion of the African shore. There is also inserted in the plate a plan of the Zaffarine Islands, which lie about fifty leagues E. S. E. from Gibraltar, and ten leagues S. E. by E. from Cape Treforcas. We shall extract a part of the observations.

‘ Captain Knight having found the Spanish and other charts of this part of Africa to be extremely incorrect, and the advantages of Tetuan Bay to be little known, was induced, by these considerations, to survey it in 1799.

‘ The bays of Ceuta and Tetuan afford good shelter for a fleet with a west by northerly or southerly wind. In both are some spots of foul ground, more particularly in Ceuta Bay, in ten to seventeen fathoms depth. Off the mouth of the river Maravi, near to the south part of Tetuan Bay, and off the white tower on the hill, is a most admirable watering-place for a fleet;—and here, on application and some slight compliments being made to the governor, fresh provisions of every kind may be obtained reasonably and in abundance, with wood for fuel. In June 1799, the British fleet under the orders of vice-admiral lord Keith anchored here, and was plentifully and expeditiously supplied with water from the river. Here ships may ride in perfect safety, on a sandy bottom, in eighteen to twenty-two fathoms, with the wind from N. W. to S. S. E. at two miles distant from the shore; but within that depth the ground is in some places rocky.

‘ The mode of watering is by landing the casks, and rolling them over a sandy beach, about thirty yards wide, into the river. The native Moors and Arabs are civil.

‘ In Ceuta Bay is also a good anchorage, and ships lie there better sheltered; but, on account of its vicinity to the garrison of Ceuta, it is less frequented in time of war. When the easterly or Levant winds spring up, it becomes necessary to get under way. The approach of these winds is generally indicated by a current from that quarter, and by a clear atmosphere for some hours before the passing clouds begin to cap the hills. In these bays, as on the opposite coast towards Gibraltar, the flood sets to the westward, and on the days of full and change the tide begins to set to the eastward at one o’clock.’

*A Survey of Bear Haven and Bantry Harbour, in Bantry Bay, by John Knight, Esq. Rear Admiral of the Blue. 5s. Steel.*

BANTRY Bay is sufficiently noted in modern history; but as we believe the French are disgusted with fruitless attempts on Ireland, there can be little apprehension of their using this chart in any future invasion. It does honour to admiral Knight's abilities in this department, and may be useful in correcting the maps in this interesting part of Ireland. Bear Haven lies beyond Great-Bear Island, and the entrance is grandly marked by Hungry Hill, which, according to this Survey, is 2160 feet above the level of the sea.

*A Chart of the East Coast of England from Lowestoff to Cromer, on which are laid down Yarmouth Roads, from a Survey by John Knight, Esq. Rear-Admiral of the Blue; and Hasborough Gat, from a Survey by Captain Joseph Huddart; and published by Order of the Trinity House. 4s. Steel.*

THE public is greatly indebted to admiral Knight for this delineation of a shore proverbially dangerous. It is accompanied with several views of land, and some short observations by the intelligent author.

*A Chart of the River Thames from London Bridge to Woolwich Warren; drawn from an accurate Trigonometrical Survey. 4s. Steel.*

USEFUL, and neatly engraved. It is accompanied with the rules concerning ballasting in the port of London; by a perpetual table of high water at London Bridge, and by some observations, amongst which is the following:

*'Variation of the Compass.—In the year 1580 the variation of the magnetic needle, as observed in Limehouse by William Borough, was 11° 5' east: it has ever since been approaching westward, and is now 24° 30' west, having varied its position thirty-five degrees and a half in about 220 years. Its motion appears to have been unequal. In the last fifty years it has increased seven degrees.'*

This chart includes an exact representation of the new docks and canal in the north of the Isle of Dogs.



*A Survey of the Virgin Islands, by George King, Land-Surveyor to those Islands. 4s. Steel.*

OF this West-Indian groupe the two chief islands are Tortola and St. Thomas. There is reason to believe that this Survey, which is accompanied with views of land, is one of the most accurate which has yet appeared.

*Chart of the White Sea from the North Cape to Archangel and Onega; deduced from the latest Surveys and Observations, by John Hamilton Moore. Two Sheets\*. 7s. 6d. Sold by the Author.*

THIS large chart includes several small surveys:—1. The river Dwina to Archangel; 2. The entrance of the river Pusz-lachta; 3. The Bight at Cape Sweetnose. It appears to be delineated with considerable accuracy; but we should have expected that the names even of the smallest islands would have been inserted in a chart on so large a scale. There are several minute views of the North Cape; but the vacant and useless paper is so extensive as to leave room for many other views of land which might have been of great consequence to the mariner.

*A New Chart of the British Channel, enlarged and improved by John Hamilton Moore. Three Sheets. 7s. 6d. Sold by the Author.*

THIS extensive chart reaches to more than twelve degrees west of Greenwich; thus including the south of Ireland. The eastern boundary extends beyond three degrees to the longitude of Cadzand. There are small compartments off Falmouth, the Downs, Dartmouth, Plymouth, Cork Harbour, and Portsmouth, with the Isle of Wight; there are also several views of headlands, &c. Major Rennell informs us that there is no good chart of the British Channel; and the present is probably one of the best extant. It is executed in a coarse bold style.

*A New Map of Great-Britain, particularly showing the Inland Navigation by the Canals and principal Rivers. Bowles and Carrington.*

WE before mentioned a map of the same nature, published by Mr. Smith. The present map includes the whole course of the rivers; but the extent to which they are navigable is not in-

\* When the number of sheets is not mentioned, the map or chart is in one sheet.

licated with that precision which might have been expected. The mark of an anchor at the mouth, and of another on the precise spot to which they are navigable, is adopted in the French maps of this nature; and it would be a still further improvement if there were merely a stroke across the river, and the number of tons added.

## SUPPLEMENT TO THE REVIEW OF MAPS;

CONTAINING

*Extracts from the foreign Journals, concerning those which seemed interesting, but have not yet reached England, or, at least, have not fallen under our Observation\*.*

AT Vienna has appeared a new and corrected edition, in two large sheets, of Ecker's Northern and Southern Hemispheres, laid down stereographically for the horizon of Vienna. These maps were first published in 1794, and form a part of Schrable's General Atlas of Germany. From the account of them given in the Journal of Gaspari, it appears that they do not contain the discoveries of Vancouver or of La Pérouse. They seem to be in imitation of the two Planispheres, published at Berlin in 1783, by professor Bode; but the outline of the coasts is not delineated with equal exactness, and there are several errors of longitude and latitude. There is a volume of letter-press, which is itself far from being immaculate.

Sotzmann has published at Berlin a Map of the Northern Part of Upper Saxony, which contains the March of Brandenburg and the duchy of Pomerania, with the post-roads, &c.; being a kind of reduction of his provincial maps. But these maps are not trigonometrical; and it is surprising that the Germans, who pretend to such geographical hypercriticism, should not give the example of tolerable maps of their own country. Yet the barbarous division into antiquated circles, and the distinct interests of the petty sovereignties, must prove obstacles to such a design. There seems also to remain a radical want of

\* It is almost unnecessary to mention, that, in this part of our Review, we must chiefly abide by the opinion of the foreign journalists.



taste in the Germans, who are more inclined to plod in the quarries of literature, than to build palaces. The very use of the old black letter in their publications is a sufficient proof of barbarism; and even the maps published under the eye of the journalists, from observations at the observatory near Gotha, —ironically, by some of our map-sellers, called Mr. Seeberg's works, from the German *Sternwarte Seeberg*, i. e. an observatory,—may indeed be accurate, but are such poor productions, and so destitute of taste and information, that no collector of maps would wish to possess one of them.

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Baron Hermelin's Atlas of Sweden is nearly completed; the first division containing the northern provinces, the second division Finland, and the third Sweden Proper. It is accompanied with views of various parts of the country:

1. The fall of the Hadtjajock on the lake Saggal, in Lulea Lappmark;
2. View of the range of mountains at *Quickjock*, in Lulea Lappmark;
3. *Gilliware*, from the southern bank of the *Wassera Elf*, in Lulea Lappmark;
4. View of the mountain *Wigeln* over the lake Oresund, from Beckaas in Norway;
5. View of the mountain *Ruten* from the north-east end of the lake Malmagen;
6. View of the range of mountains between Herjeadalen and Norway, taken from Mount Funnesdal;
7. View of the forges and smelting-houses at *Ljusnedal*, in Herjeadalen;
8. View from Wermasvuori towards the lakes Jockijavoi and Umolanselka.
9. View of Stockholm.

The latter sheets are superior in neatness and accuracy to the first; but the journalists of Weimar exclaim as usual against the neglect of astronomical observations. We must remind them that the study of geography is very widely diffused; while not one in a thousand pays any attention to the astronomical part, after having learned the elements of geography. In reading books of history or travels, &c. maps are consulted with a view to the relative situations of places, and a general conventional accuracy is all that is expected. Few readers are so ignorant as not to know that a map or plain surface cannot represent any part of a sphere with complete mathematical precision; nor must it be forgotten that astronomical observations depend on the skill of the observers, and that many are found to be erroneous.

We agree however with the foreign journalists concerning

the advantage of computing the longitude from a fixed and general meridian; and it is to be wished that the French and English would abandon the computation from Paris and Greenwich, and return to that from Ferro, or some other more western spot, than which there could not be a more essential improvement in geography.

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Of Von Gorog's maps of the Provinces of Hungary, twenty-two sheets were completed some time ago. They are divided according to counties, the meridian being taken from Ofen or Buda, and form the most complete Atlas of Hungary which has yet appeared.

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M. Gussefeld has published a new map of the Hartz and circumjacent countries, for the use of travelers who visit that interesting part of Germany—the size of the map being about twenty-one inches by fifteen. The mountains of the Hartz are represented in three profiles; and the whole is well calculated to assist the researches of the traveler, and to exhibit the topography of that singular region.

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\* \* \* In our next we hope to give ample accounts of two capital performances; Mr. Arrowsmith's New Map of North America; and Mr. Faden's County of Kent, from the plates of the Grand Trigonometrical Survey of England.



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END OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH VOLUME.

M-M

ERRATA.

Page 115, line 45, for *brother* read *father*.

237, — 47, for *he was continually* read *she was*, &c.

476, — 7, for *great* read *greater*.

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